



The Polis Center at IUPUI

What we do

We collaborate to create innovative place-based solutions that lead to more productive decision-making and healthier and more resilient communities.



We enhance the capacity of communities to respond meaningfully to change by:

- producing actionable information
- developing creative collaborations
- building capacity
- performing place-based research
- employing technology effectively



We are committed:

- to linking university and community expertise
- to the smart use of advanced technologies to help solve problems and help communities take advantage of opportunities



We work collaboratively and often serve as the nexus among diverse organizations, including:

- community-based organizations
- government agencies
- educational institutions
- arts and cultural organizations
- charitable endowments
- businesses
- faith-based organizations



Our resources

- community research infrastructure
- SAVI community information system
- staff
- technical skills, especially in geospatial tools such as GIS
- extensive project and project management experience
- long record of attracting external funding



Our tools

- Geospatial technologies, especially GIS, are our preferred technical tools because of their unique ability to integrate and visualize information by location.
- We use these tools to develop and analyze data for communities and then involve local experts in helping to understand what the results mean.



Polis staff expertise

- GIS analysts, application specialists, and technicians
- data analysts
- research analysts
- project managers
- research programmers
- computer programmers
- system engineers
- data administrators
- research assistants
- UI/UX designers
- communication and media specialists



Polis staff experience

- 221 years combined GIS experience
- 71 years combined high-level project management experience
- 59 years combined programming experience
- 52 years combined database experience
- 45 combined years communication and media experience
- 35 years combined research analysis experience
- 34 years combined data analysis experience
- 30 years combined systems engineering experience
- 25 years combined community needs assessments and social determinants of health analysis



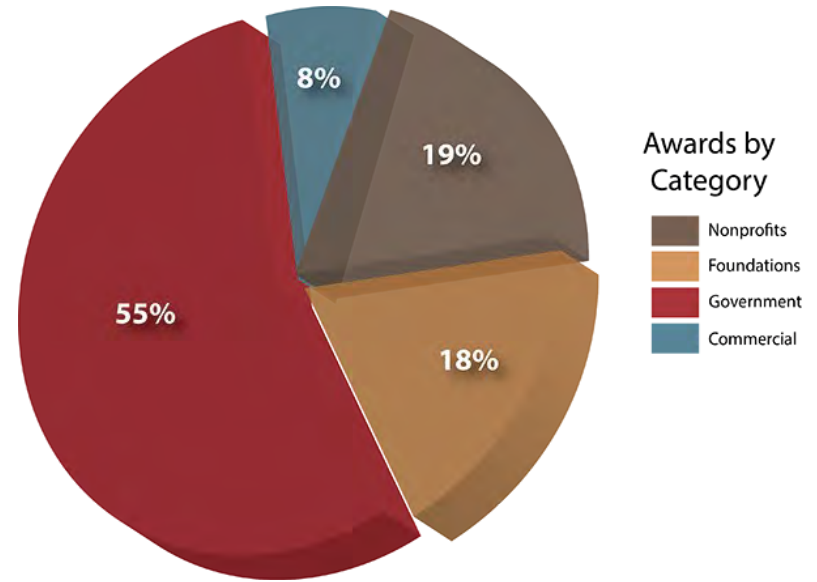
Technology stack and services

- Physical Servers, Virtual servers, Desktops etc.
- Oracle -> Apex
- SQL Server
- Hadoop -> Hbase
- Polybase
- .Net Latest version
- JavaScript Libraries (jQuery, Angular, d3 JS, KO JS, leaflet JS etc.)
- CSS3 or CSS4, bootstrap
- HTML, HTML5
- Excel, Word
- FIS
- Access
- ArcGIS Online
- Python
- R



Polis project experience and funding

- developed more than 700 projects
- grant and contract funding exceeding \$85 million



Our Signature Projects



IUPUI



The Indiana Data Partnership

- collaborating with:
 - State of Indiana's Management Performance Hub
 - IU Public Policy Institute
 - IU Network Sciences Institute
 - Indiana Business Research
- increasing the availability and usefulness of data-sharing among state agencies and between the state and various local government and nonprofit organizations



Indiana Partnership for Healthy Communities

- collaborating with:
 - Richard M. Fairbanks School of Public Health
 - Indiana Clinical Translational Research Institute
- providing improved and sustainable processes for understanding and affecting community health and ultimately to improve the health of Indiana communities



SAVI community information system

- Nation's earliest, largest, and most comprehensive system (<http://www.savi.org/>)
- Integrates data from over 30 providers
- Interactive, in-depth look at the Indianapolis MSA at scales from census tracts and neighborhoods to the region at large



One of the nation's first and largest community information systems.

Neighborhood Change

On June 14 we present SAVI Talks, exploring Indianapolis' changing neighborhoods from 1970 to 2016. Our research views suburbanization, White flight, gentrification, and suburban redevelopment through the lens of neighborhood demographics.

[Learn More](#)



Learn what's trending in your community.

SAVI empowers nonprofits, governments, and citizens with the community information they need. We bring together

Community



Creating community intelligence to support the decision-making process with and for:

- nonprofits
- community-based organization
- faith-based organizations
- community-based researchers



Our community informatics work

- building community information systems like SAVI
- translating data to practice with and for communities
- providing decision support – applied research, consulting, dashboards, other technology systems
- building capacity in others to use information for decision-making



Decision support tools

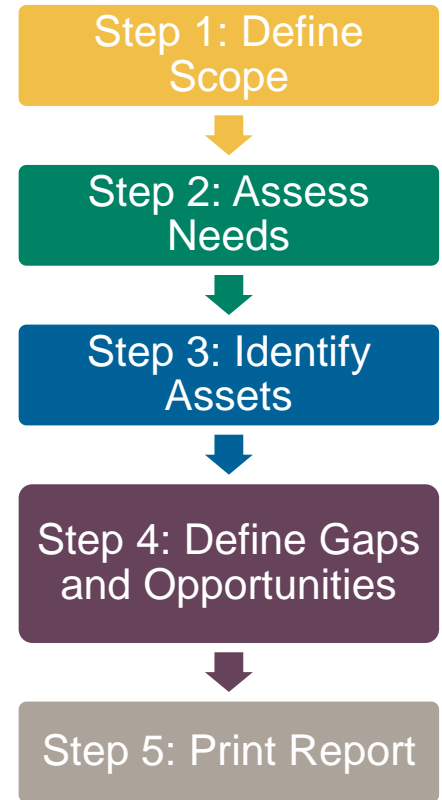
- IndyVitals.org – Measuring Health and Stability of Neighborhoods
- Online Community Assessment Tool: assessment.savi.org/
- Improved Community Profiles
- GenerosityforLife.org – School of Philanthropy - Data tools to be informed about philanthropic giving



Community Assessment Tool

<http://assessment.savi.org/>

- understand the needs in the community
- identify resource gaps
- make data-informed decisions
- evaluating the reach of current programs
- establish priority areas
- strategically target outreach programs and services





Impact Our Community.

Welcome to our new Community Assessment resource!

The new SAVI community assessment & planning tool is designed to help you learn more about your community's population, social and economic issues, and resources in an easy-to-use tool. Assessing your community's needs and assets is an important first step in planning community improvement.

Use this tool to create a customized data report about the community of your choice. Once you define your assessment geography, SAVI will calculate hundreds of statistics for your area and make them accessible in a dashboard and charts and maps. We will compile it into a report that you can download in MS Word document and then continue customizing with your own data and narrative.

We would like to hear from you! Send us feedback on how we can improve this community resource and share with us how you've used the tool to help your community efforts.



Near Westside Neighborhood Area


Get Updates by Email

Sign Up



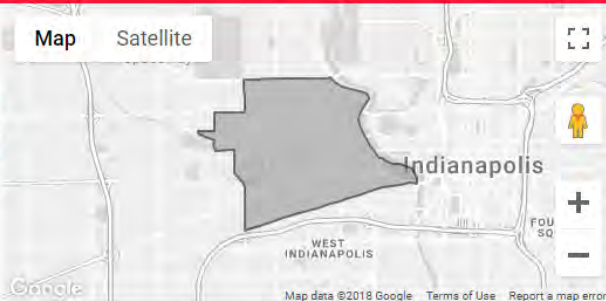
HOW ARE THE NEIGHBORHOOD AREAS DEFINED?

2016 Median HHLI Income (\$1000s):	\$24.8
2015 Poverty Rate:	41%
2010 Total Population:	17,310
2016 Median Age:	31


 [SAVI Community Profile](#)

Map

Satellite



Map data ©2018 Google Terms of Use Report a map error

 Executive View  View all  How to read the data?  

Near Westside Neighborhood Area

TOPIC

INDICATOR

General Trends

CURRENT VALUE CHANGE SINCE 2010

How does the Neighborhood Area compare with...


Other N'hood Areas


County


Indy Metro

Indiana


CURRENT RANK RANK CHANGE SINCE 2010







 **OVERALL** *General Demographics and Overview Statistics*

 **BUILT ENVIRONMENT** *Quality, Choice, Access*

 **ECONOMY AND JOBS** *Quality Jobs and Shared Prosperity*

Jobs		5,556	 -477	31st	 3	N/A	N/A	N/A
Unemployment Rate		14%	 -7pt	84th	 11	5.2pt	7.3pt	7.3pt
Post-High School Degree		14%	 4pt	89th	 5	-21.9pt	-25.6pt	-18.6pt

 **EDUCATION** *Education, Arts, and Community*

Quality Schools (Accountability)		42%	 42pt	55th	 4	-16.6pt	N/A	N/A
High School Graduation Rate		34%	 -25pt	43rd	 6	-50.4pt	-55.4pt	-55.1pt

Health



To develop new information and place-based approaches for understanding and affecting community health, we work in partnership with:

- hospitals
- local health departments
- non-governmental health agencies
- health researchers



Community engagement

We combine and analyze community and clinical data and develop innovative processes and tools to improve:

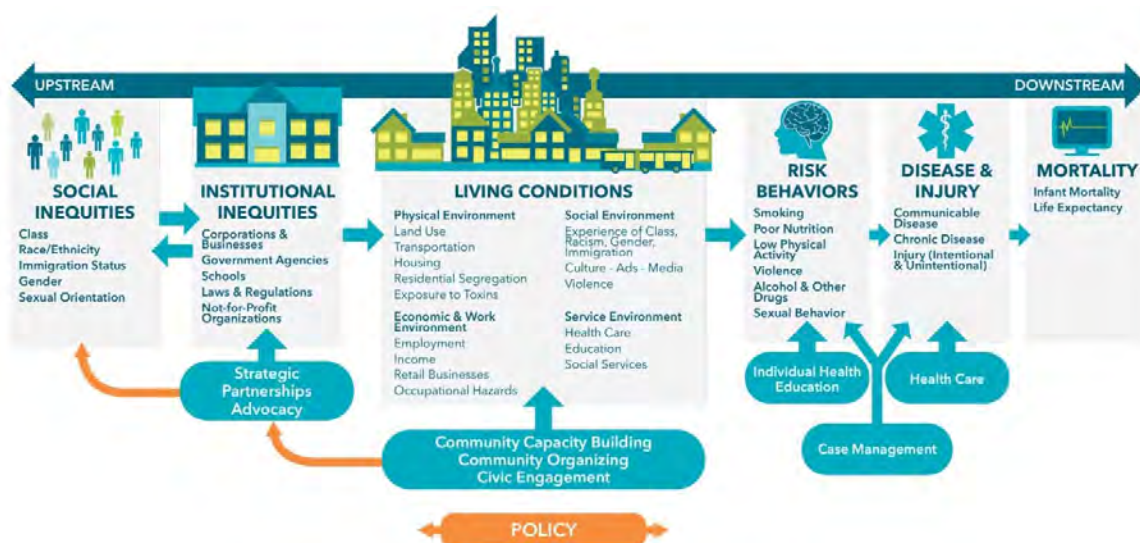
- community health
- population health
- clinical decision-making



www.healthycommunities.org

Social determinants of health

We curate an extensive collection of datasets on the social determinants of community health and resilience.



letsgethealthy.ca.gov/sdoh



Resiliency



The Polis Center develops innovative processes that help communities enhance their capacity to respond meaningfully to change.

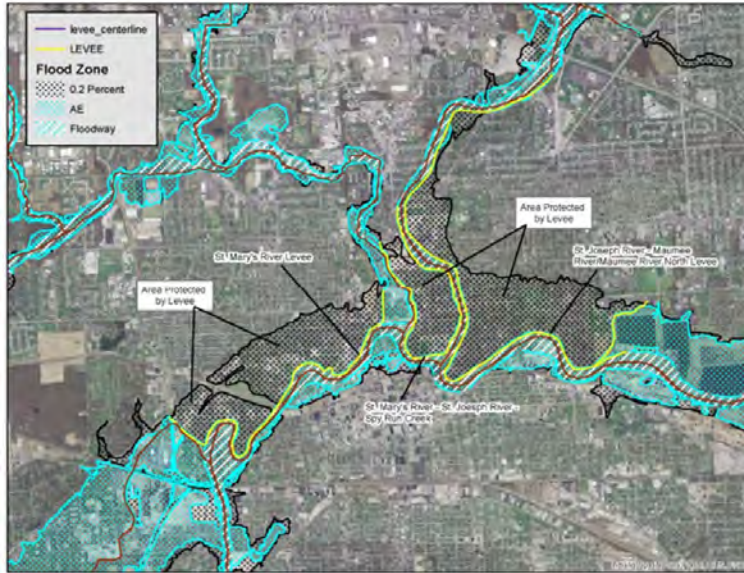


We support planners, engineers, and government officials in preventing or reducing significant losses from natural disasters by combining:

- geospatial analysis
- modeling
- outreach activities



Disaster (or Crisis) Informatics



- supports emergency preparedness and disaster mitigation, response, and recovery
- develops and processes information systems, technologies, and interfaces
- explores the interconnectedness of people, place, community, information, and technology

Effective and efficient disaster preparedness and response requires:

- getting the right information to the right people at the right time
- using a platform suited to the unique needs of particular communities
- integrative and collaborative efforts from many disciplines



Our approach to meeting resiliency needs

Emergency Preparedness & Mitigation

Multi-Hazard Mitigation Planning partners with local communities to enhance their capacity to interpret and transform knowledge into effective disaster planning.

Disaster planning results in six-fold savings!

Response & Recovery

Having an up-to-date mitigation plan enables communities to rapidly respond and recover from disasters.






We assist communities in acquiring the funds they need in order to receive federal disaster assistance.

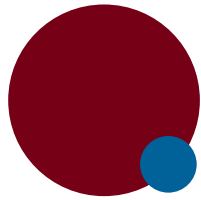
Building Disaster Resilient Communities

When communities rebuild, we assist them in developing infrastructure that is stronger, more resilient, and better equipped to stand the test of time and weather whatever storms lie ahead.



Mitigation benefit by hazard and mitigation measure

National Benefit-Cost Ratio Per Peril <small>*BCR numbers in this study have been rounded</small>		Federally Funded	Beyond Code Requirements
Overall Hazard Benefit-Cost Ratio		6:1	4:1
 Riverine Flood		7:1	5:1
 Hurricane Surge		Too few grants	7:1
 Wind		5:1	5:1
 Earthquake		3:1	4:1
 Wildland-Urban Interface Fire		3:1	4:1

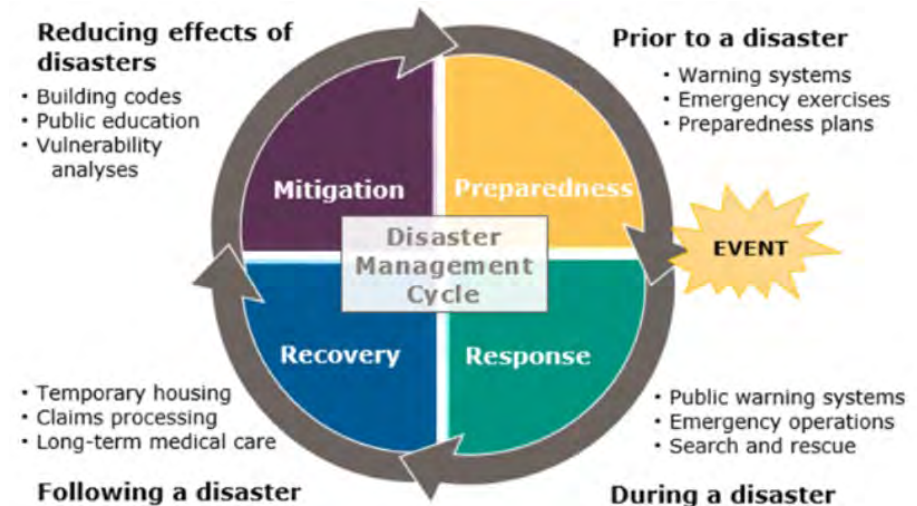


Hazard mitigation planning

The Federal Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 requires jurisdictions to develop and maintain a **Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan** in order to remain eligible for certain federal disaster assistance and hazard mitigation funding programs.

Having produced more than 300 multi-hazard mitigation plans, we are experienced in helping states, counties, and communities meet federal requirements to receive disaster mitigation funds.

Our Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plans combine geospatial analysis and modeling to address hazardous issues in economic development, emergency management, and land use planning.

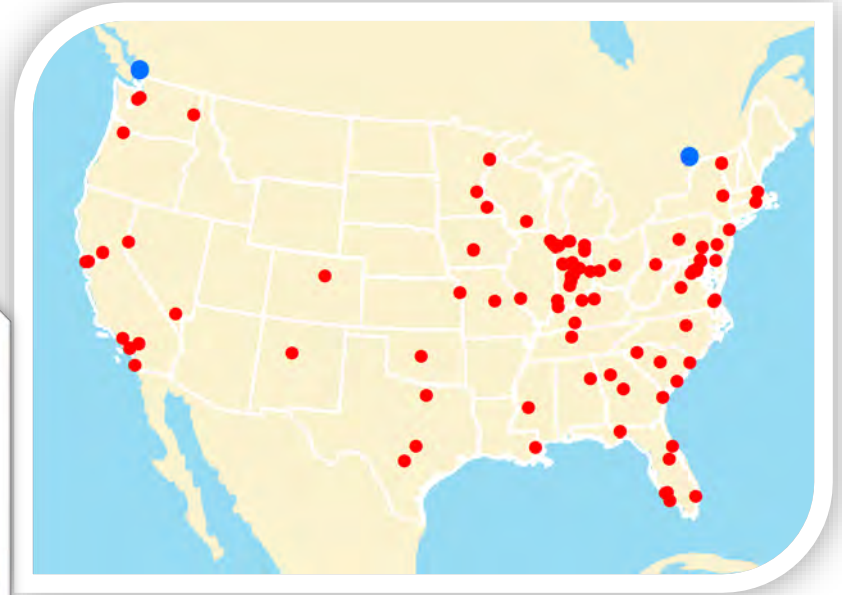


We educate in disaster mitigation:

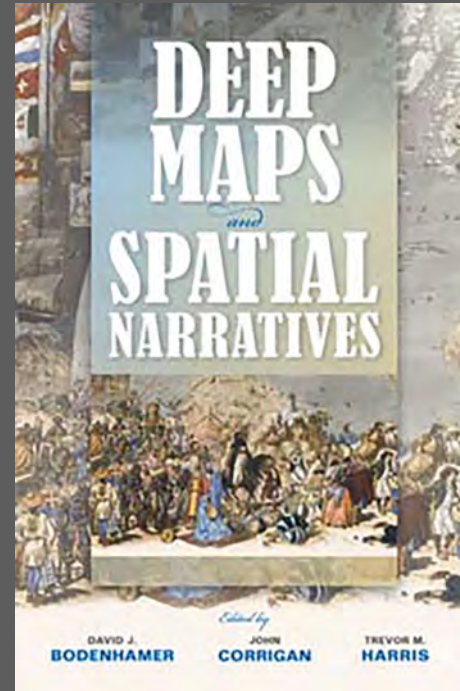
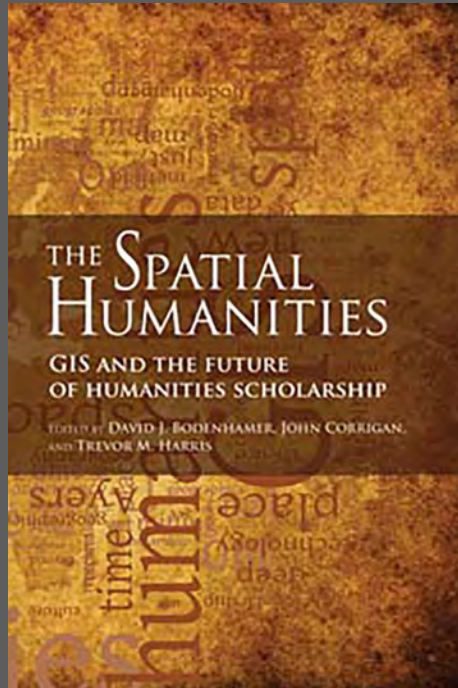
- FEMA-authorized courses
- four-day long FEMA courses
- multiple introductory through advanced courses in FEMA's Hazus-MH natural hazard loss estimation tool
- on-site training
- customized spatial technology programs that reflect the processes and workflows unique to individual communities and organizations



Training: 111 cities in
35 states and 10 countries



Spatial Humanities



Spatial Humanities

We serve an international community of humanities scholars interested in applying geospatial technologies to the disciplines within the humanities to explore new questions about:

- the relationship of space to human behavior
- social, economic, political, and cultural development



Our strategic goal

Develop a Community Research Infrastructure to:

- support research and analysis for better decision-making
- improve policy for the greater good of communities in Indiana.

Polis Center Community Research Infrastructure (RI)



The Polis Center will empower communities to become healthier and more resilient by creating and employing an internationally-recognized community research infrastructure to facilitate innovation and knowledge sharing.

In the next 3 to 5 years, Polis will expand, focus, and improve our skills, methods, technologies, and data through our relationships on behalf of our partner communities.

“Efficient RIs enable the greatest **discoveries** in science and technology, **attract researchers** from around the **world** and build bridges between research communities. They allow the **training** of researchers and facilitate innovation and knowledge-sharing.”

European Commission. About Research Infrastructures. Retrieved from https://ec.europa.eu/commission/index_en





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