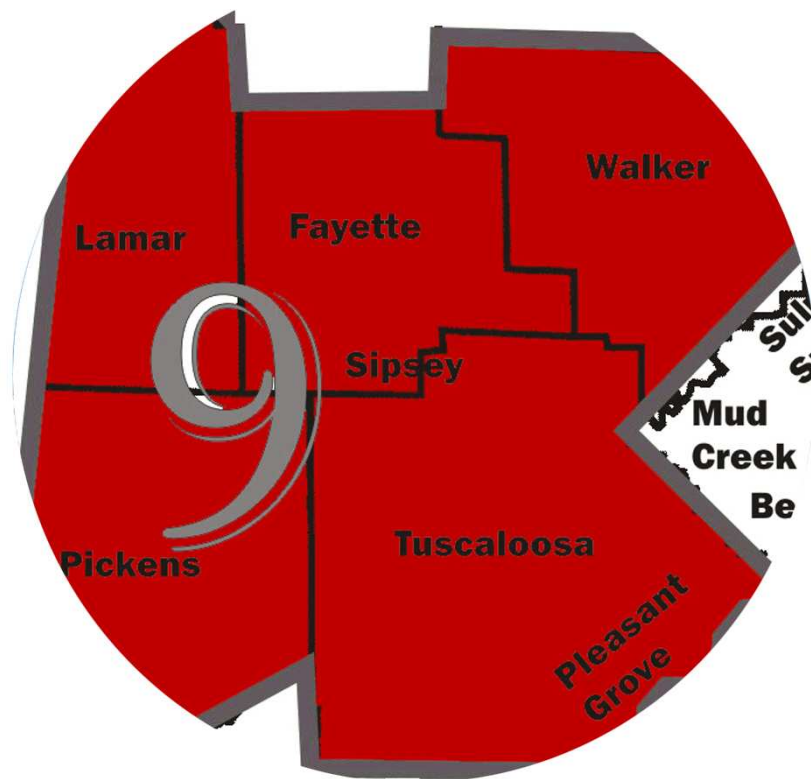


# MISSION POINTS

## *Top Unreached Locations*



Top Mission Points in District 9:  
West Central District, Alabama

**iFocus**  
CONGREGATIONAL  
DEVELOPMENT

**neotribal**  
CULTURES PROJECT

 **Intercultural Institute**  
*for Contextual Ministry*

## Understanding Your Mission Point Report

The purpose of the Mission Point Report is to provide direction for pinpointing locations where missional activity is greatly needed. “Missional activity” may be defined as incarnational mission that leads to the reaching of new believers and the starting of new ministries and new congregations.

The Mission Point Report identifies the top unreached locations within the chosen geographical area. To arrive at this designation, a number of data sources have been used and cross-tabulated in order to make this determination. These locations are chosen based on the following factors within the site location:

1. A weighting algorithm that includes the following variables: number of households, percent of active evangelical presence, percent of unreached, and percent of religious - but not evangelical.
2. Ring size based on the IICM Sitescape location type: city (generally inner city or high density area) - 1/2 mile ring; suburb - 1 1/2 mile ring; towns - 3 mile ring; and country - 7 mile ring.
3. Distance from other chosen locations based on the IICM Sitescape density location type: city – 1-2 miles; suburb - 3- 4 miles; town – 6-8 miles, and country – 14-16 miles.

Each Mission Point report identifies each location by census tract centroid, latitude & longitude, city, county, IICM Sitescape category and group, density and population patterns, number of households (current year), and the number of households and percentage for: active evangelicals, unreached status, religious but not evangelical, spiritual but not evangelical, and not evangelical and not interested in religion or spirituality. A map of each location is also provided.

The community type and county type section provides an overview of the social environment of the location. Six types of communities are identified with the percentage given for the site location. These communities may provide the basis for developing missional learning clusters. Six types of counties are identified with a true/false designation for the site location.

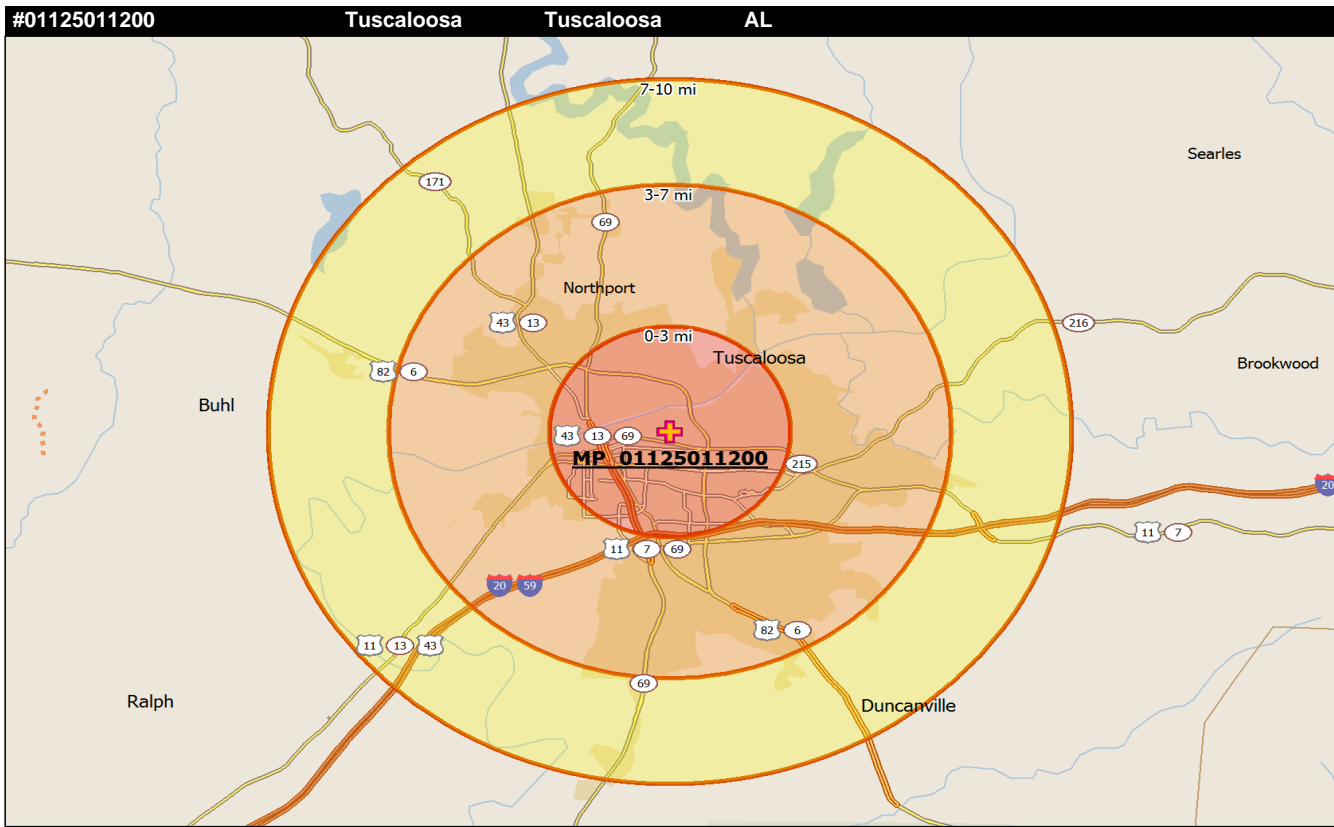
The diversity index section highlights the five measures of how each mission site compares with other sites around the country. On a scale of 0-100, the mission site is ranked in terms of language, ancestry, foreign born, racial and a composite index. The population density of the location is also compared to the rest of the country as well.

After the information pages you will find some notes to help interpret the information.

God bless your missional endeavors!

*Curt Watke, Ph.D.*

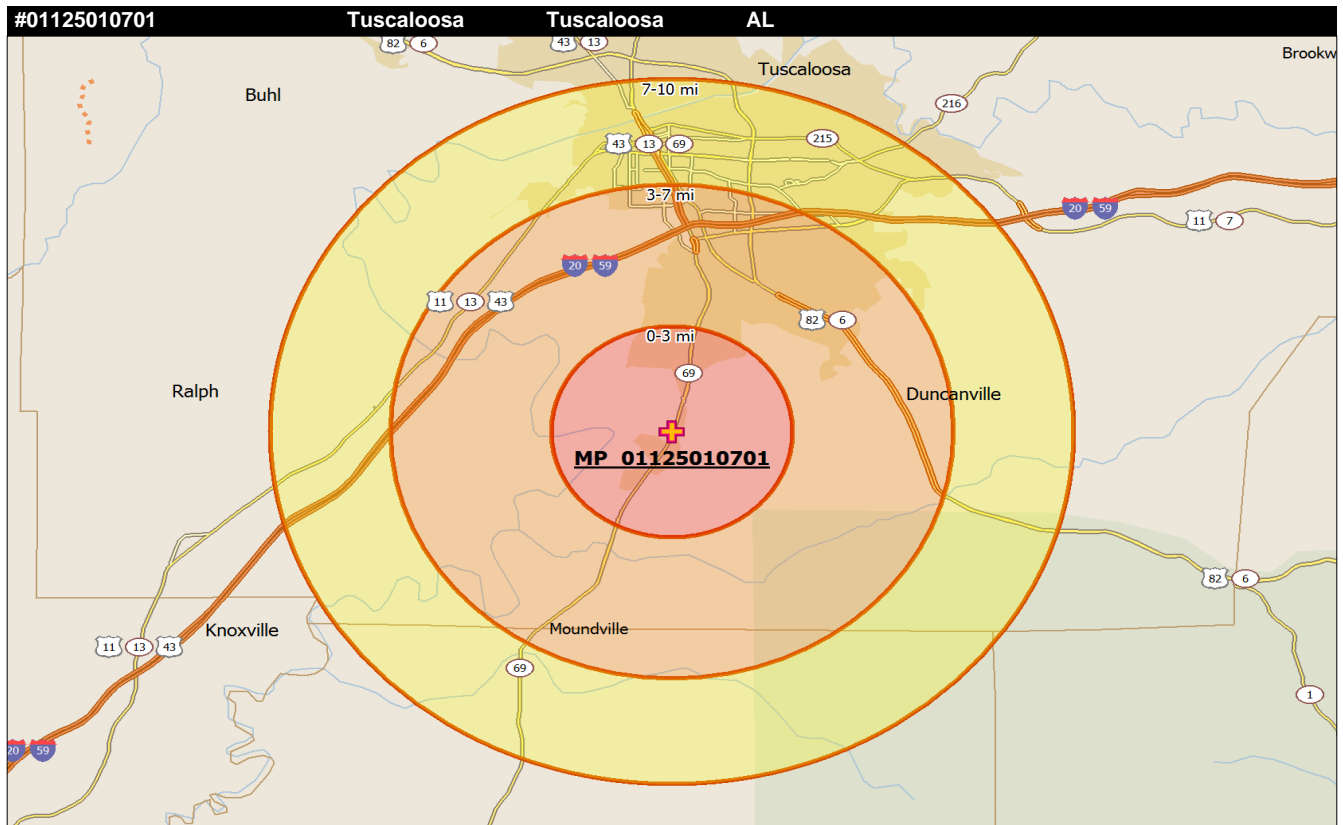
Executive Director



1 LOCATION RANK IN REGIONAL SITESCAPE		3 MILE RING SPIRITUALITY STATUS	
Census Tract	#01125011200	Total Households in 3 mi Ring	26,074
CT Centroid Latitude	33.21257	Active Evangelical HHLDS	4,554
CT Centroid Longitude	-87.53639	Active Evangelical PERCENT	17.47%
City Location	Tuscaloosa	Unreached HHLDS	18,806
County Location	Tuscaloosa	Unreached Percent	72.13%
Sitescape Category code	4	Religious but NOT Evang HHLDS	5,941
Sitescape Group code	4.1	Religious but NOT Evang PERCENT	22.78%
Sitescape Category	Cityscape	Spiritual but Not Religious or Evang HHLDS	2,582
Sitescape Group	Small Cities	Spiritual but Not Religious PERCENT	9.9%
Density Assignment	K	NOT Evangelical NOT Interested HHLDS	10,555
Population Pattern	100000-100000-50000	NOT Evangelical NOT Interested PERCENT	40.48%

3 MILE RING COMMUNITY TYPES		3 MILE RING COUNTY TYPES	
Upscale Community	10.69%	Low Education County	False
Mainstay Community	3.94%	Low Employment County	False
Working Community	14.09%	Persistent Poverty County	False
Country Community	3.23%	Population Loss County	False
Aspiring Community	12.48%	Nonmetro Recreation County	False
Urban Community	55.55%	Retirement Destination County	False

3 MILE RING DIVERSITY INDEX (Least 0-Most 100)		3 MILE RING COUNTY TYPES	
Language Diversity Index	29.31	Racial Diversity Index	65.92
Ancestry Diversity Index	28.30	Diversity Composite Index	23.52
Foreign Born Diversity Index	63.73	Population Density Index	52.30



2 LOCATION RANK IN REGIONAL SITESCAPE		3 MILE RING SPIRITUALITY STATUS	
Census Tract	#01125010701	Total Households in 3 mi Ring	3,138
CT Centroid Latitude	33.06608	Active Evangelical HHLDS	625
CT Centroid Longitude	-87.54095	Active Evangelical PERCENT	19.93%
City Location	Tuscaloosa	Unreached HHLDS	2,140
County Location	Tuscaloosa	Unreached Percent	68.21%
Sitescape Category code	2	Religious but NOT Evang HHLDS	559
Sitescape Group code	2.1	Religious but NOT Evang PERCENT	17.81%
Sitescape Category	Townscape	Spiritual but Not Religious or Evang HHLDS	371
Sitescape Group	Small Towns	Spiritual but Not Religious PERCENT	11.83%
Density Assignment	I1	NOT Evangelical NOT Interested HHLDS	1,210
Population Pattern	10000-50000-100000	NOT Evangelical NOT Interested PERCENT	38.57%

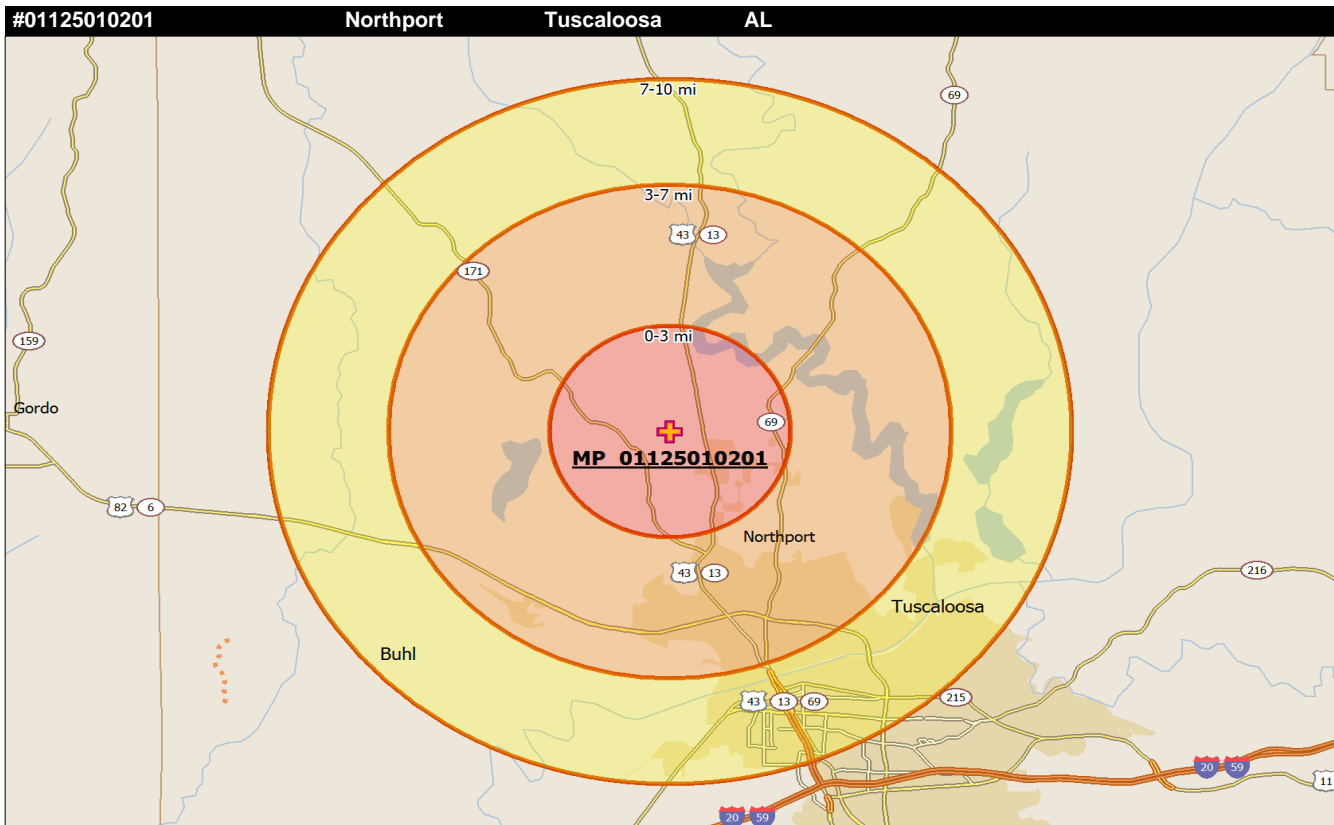
3 MILE RING COMMUNITY TYPES		3 MILE RING COUNTY TYPES	
Upscale Community	51.12%	Low Education County	False
Mainstay Community	8.51%	Low Employment County	False
Working Community	0.38%	Persistent Poverty County	False
Country Community	12.4%	Population Loss County	False
Aspiring Community	17.5%	Nonmetro Recreation County	False
Urban Community	10.1%	Retirement Destination County	False

3 MILE RING DIVERSITY INDEX (Least 0-Most 100)		3 MILE RING COUNTY TYPES	
Language Diversity Index	20.46	Racial Diversity Index	59.89
Ancestry Diversity Index	29.87	Diversity Composite Index	18.58
Foreign Born Diversity Index	25.31	Population Density Index	13.88

Data Sources: IICM SITESCAPE; Simmons Market Research Bureau, ScanUS

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3 LOCATION RANK IN REGIONAL SITESCAPE		3 MILE RING SPIRITUALITY STATUS	
Census Tract	#01125010201	Total Households in 3 mi Ring	3,139
CT Centroid Latitude	33.30475	Active Evangelical HHLDS	642
CT Centroid Longitude	-87.62207	Active Evangelical PERCENT	20.45%
City Location	Northport	Unreached HHLDS	2,116
County Location	Tuscaloosa	Unreached Percent	67.42%
Sitescape Category code	2	Religious but NOT Evang HHLDS	444
Sitescape Group code	2.1	Religious but NOT Evang PERCENT	14.16%
Sitescape Category	Townscape	Spiritual but Not Religious or Evang HHLDS	404
Sitescape Group	Small Towns	Spiritual but Not Religious PERCENT	12.86%
Density Assignment	I1	NOT Evangelical NOT Interested HHLDS	1,268
Population Pattern	10000-50000-100000	NOT Evangelical NOT Interested PERCENT	40.4%

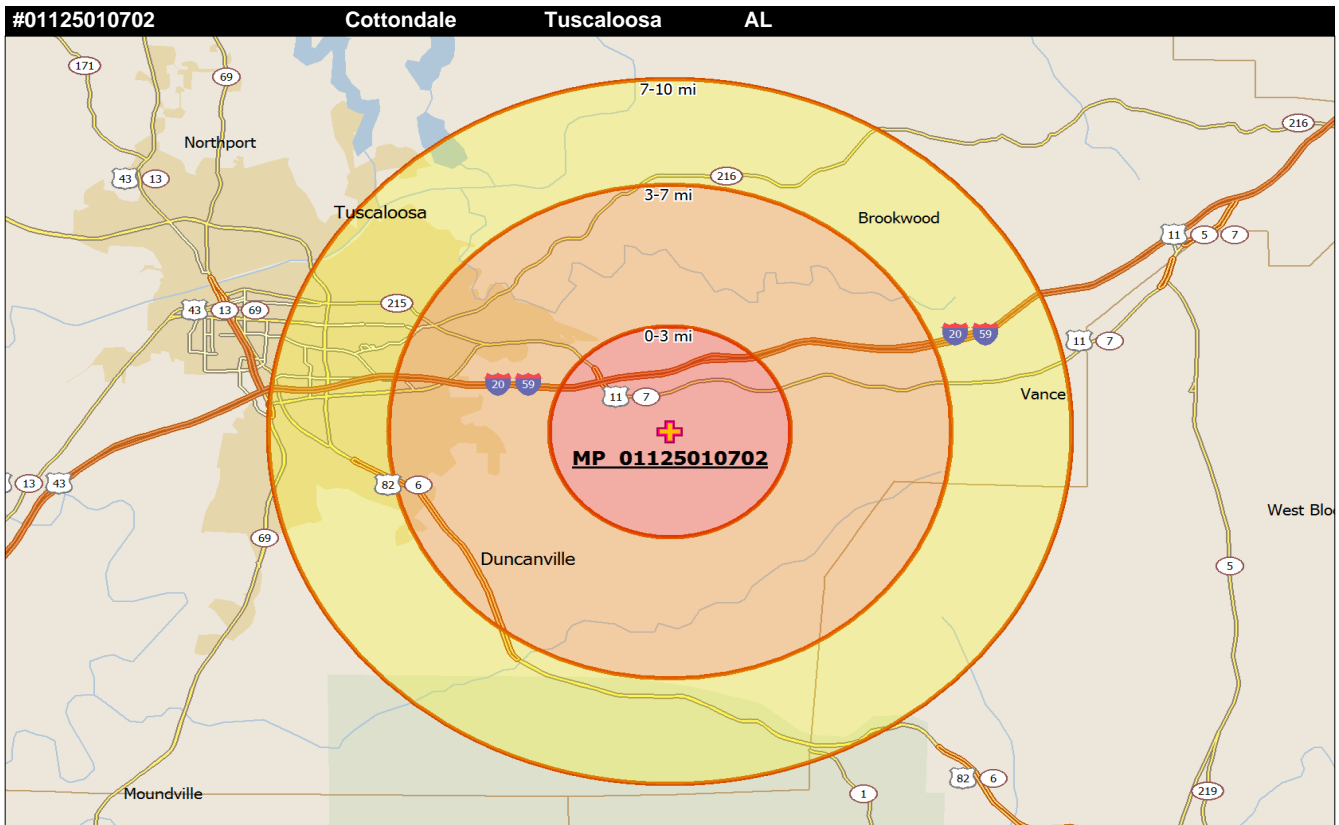
3 MILE RING COMMUNITY TYPES		3 MILE RING COUNTY TYPES	
Upscale Community	31%	Low Education County	False
Mainstay Community	39.41%	Low Employment County	False
Working Community	12.3%	Persistent Poverty County	False
Country Community	9.97%	Population Loss County	False
Aspiring Community	7.36%	Nonmetro Recreation County	False
Urban Community	0%	Retirement Destination County	False

3 MILE RING DIVERSITY INDEX (Least 0-Most 100)		3 MILE RING COUNTY TYPES	
Language Diversity Index	22.66	Racial Diversity Index	26.29
Ancestry Diversity Index	57.19	Diversity Composite Index	20.59
Foreign Born Diversity Index	67.26	Population Density Index	20.55

Data Sources: IICM SITESCAPE; Simmons Market Research Bureau, ScanUS

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4 LOCATION RANK IN REGIONAL SITESCAPE		3 MILE RING SPIRITUALITY STATUS	
Census Tract	#01125010702	Total Households in 3 mi Ring	1,114
CT Centroid Latitude	33.14642	Active Evangelical HHLDS	257
CT Centroid Longitude	-87.38405	Active Evangelical PERCENT	23.04%
City Location	Cottondale	Unreached HHLDS	704
County Location	Tuscaloosa	Unreached Percent	63.16%
Sitescape Category code	2	Religious but NOT Evang HHLDS	146
Sitescape Group code	2.1	Religious but NOT Evang PERCENT	13.11%
Sitescape Category	Townscape	Spiritual but Not Religious or Evang HHLDS	133
Sitescape Group	Small Towns	Spiritual but Not Religious PERCENT	11.94%
Density Assignment	C	NOT Evangelical NOT Interested HHLDS	425
Population Pattern	10000-50000-50000	NOT Evangelical NOT Interested PERCENT	38.12%

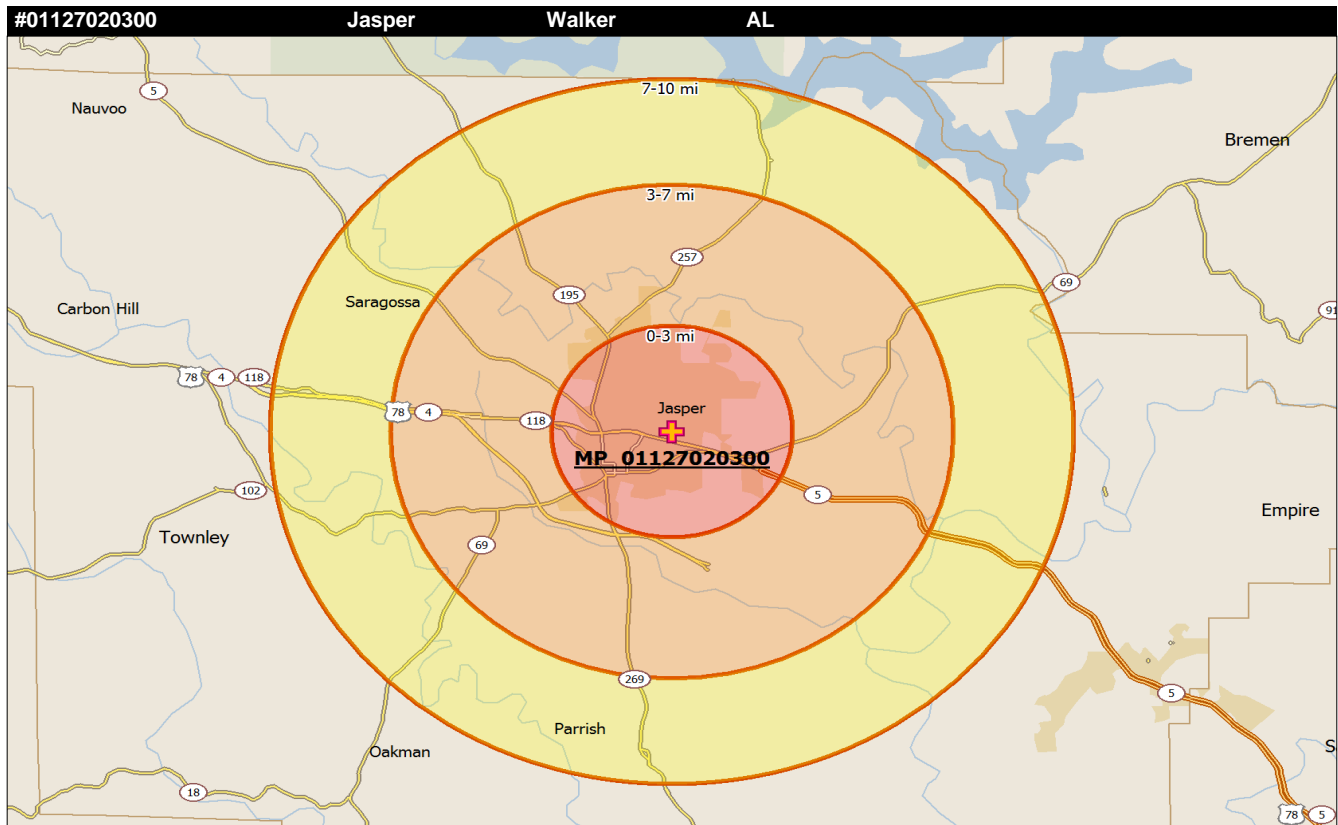
3 MILE RING COMMUNITY TYPES		3 MILE RING COUNTY TYPES	
Upscale Community	6.55%	Low Education County	False
Mainstay Community	30.52%	Low Employment County	False
Working Community	16.25%	Persistent Poverty County	False
Country Community	35.82%	Population Loss County	False
Aspiring Community	6.19%	Nonmetro Recreation County	False
Urban Community	4.58%	Retirement Destination County	False

3 MILE RING DIVERSITY INDEX (Least 0-Most 100)		3 MILE RING COUNTY TYPES	
Language Diversity Index	0.97	Racial Diversity Index	27.22
Ancestry Diversity Index	59.99	Diversity Composite Index	23.40
Foreign Born Diversity Index	36.70	Population Density Index	7.66

Data Sources: IICM SITESCAPE; Simmons Market Research Bureau, ScanUS

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5 LOCATION RANK IN REGIONAL SITESCAPE		3 MILE RING SPIRITUALITY STATUS	
Census Tract	#01127020300	Total Households in 3 mi Ring	5,334
CT Centroid Latitude	33.86159	Active Evangelical HHLDS	1,357
CT Centroid Longitude	-87.25482	Active Evangelical PERCENT	25.44%
City Location	Jasper	Unreached HHLDS	3,604
County Location	Walker	Unreached Percent	67.57%
Sitescape Category code	2	Religious but NOT Evang HHLDS	873
Sitescape Group code	2.2	Religious but NOT Evang PERCENT	16.37%
Sitescape Category	Townscape	Spiritual but Not Religious or Evang HHLDS	581
Sitescape Group	Medium Towns	Spiritual but Not Religious PERCENT	10.9%
Density Assignment	K	NOT Evangelical NOT Interested HHLDS	2,186
Population Pattern	50000-50000-50000	NOT Evangelical NOT Interested PERCENT	40.98%

3 MILE RING COMMUNITY TYPES		3 MILE RING COUNTY TYPES	
Upscale Community	13.4%	Low Education County	True
Mainstay Community	28.68%	Low Employment County	True
Working Community	21.69%	Persistent Poverty County	False
Country Community	14.25%	Population Loss County	False
Aspiring Community	4.11%	Nonmetro Recreation County	False
Urban Community	17.9%	Retirement Destination County	False

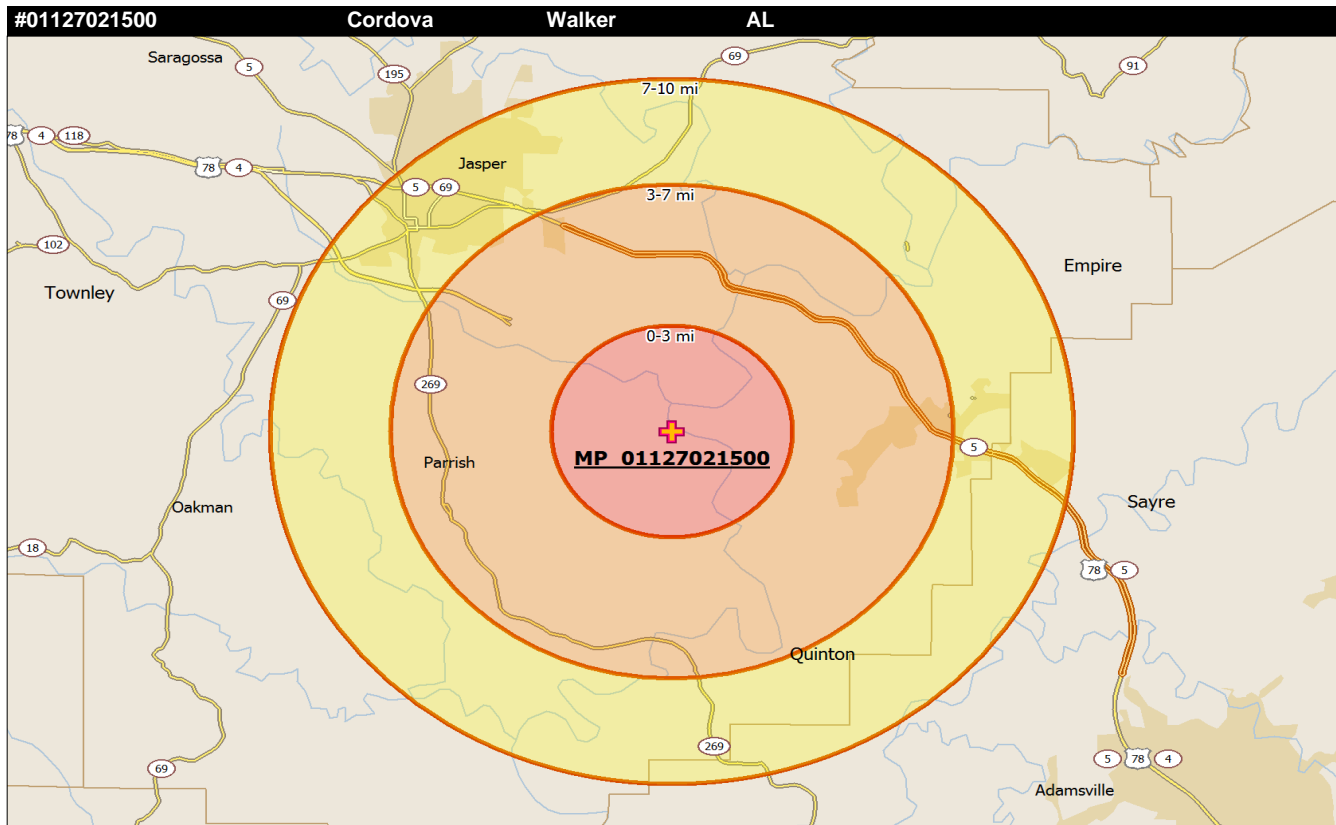
3 MILE RING DIVERSITY INDEX (Least 0-Most 100)		3 MILE RING COUNTY TYPES	
Language Diversity Index	10.72	Racial Diversity Index	22.69
Ancestry Diversity Index	62.72	Diversity Composite Index	10.12
Foreign Born Diversity Index	7.41	Population Density Index	25.48

Data Sources: IICM SITESCAPE; Simmons Market Research Bureau, ScanUS

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6 LOCATION RANK IN REGIONAL SITESCAPE		3 MILE RING SPIRITUALITY STATUS	
Census Tract	#01127021500	Total Households in 3 mi Ring	1,328
CT Centroid Latitude	33.74577	Active Evangelical HHLDS	364
CT Centroid Longitude	-87.18171	Active Evangelical PERCENT	27.40%
City Location	Cordova	Unreached HHLDS	862
County Location	Walker	Unreached Percent	64.88%
Sitescape Category code	2	Religious but NOT Evang HHLDS	210
Sitescape Group code	2.1	Religious but NOT Evang PERCENT	15.83%
Sitescape Category	Townscape	Spiritual but Not Religious or Evang HHLDS	159
Sitescape Group	Small Towns	Spiritual but Not Religious PERCENT	11.99%
Density Assignment	I1	NOT Evangelical NOT Interested HHLDS	494
Population Pattern	10000-50000-50000	NOT Evangelical NOT Interested PERCENT	37.23%

3 MILE RING COMMUNITY TYPES		3 MILE RING COUNTY TYPES	
Upscale Community	0%	Low Education County	True
Mainstay Community	4.44%	Low Employment County	True
Working Community	47.67%	Persistent Poverty County	False
Country Community	26.51%	Population Loss County	False
Aspiring Community	5.65%	Nonmetro Recreation County	False
Urban Community	15.59%	Retirement Destination County	False

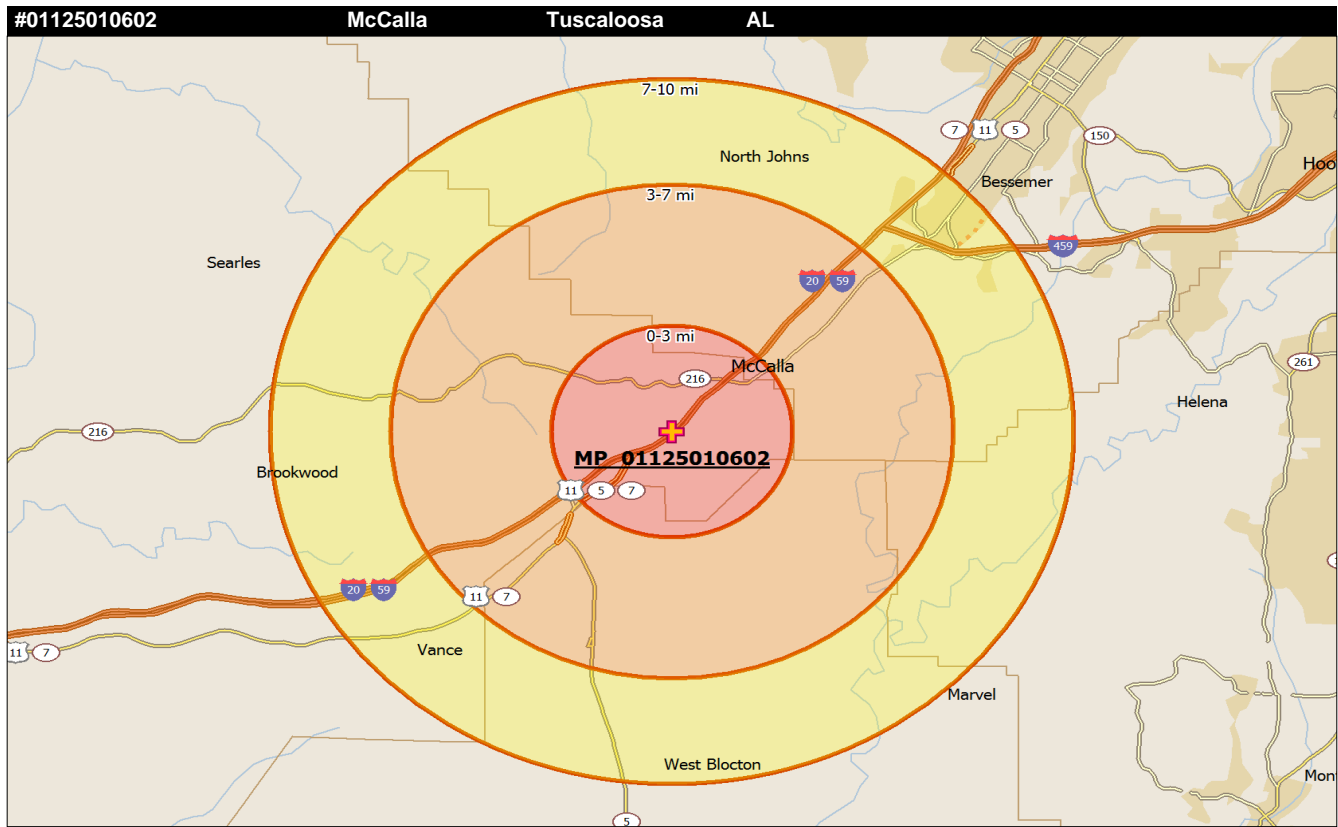
3 MILE RING DIVERSITY INDEX (Least 0-Most 100)		3 MILE RING COUNTY TYPES	
Language Diversity Index	7.86	Racial Diversity Index	23.95
Ancestry Diversity Index	43.00	Diversity Composite Index	8.96
Foreign Born Diversity Index	30.42	Population Density Index	11.51

Data Sources: IICM SITESCAPE; Simmons Market Research Bureau, ScanUS

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7 LOCATION RANK IN REGIONAL SITESCAPE		3 MILE RING SPIRITUALITY STATUS	
Census Tract	#01125010602	Total Households in 3 mi Ring	2,818
CT Centroid Latitude	33.26992	Active Evangelical HHLDS	667
CT Centroid Longitude	-87.14238	Active Evangelical PERCENT	23.67%
City Location	McCalla	Unreached HHLDS	1,754
County Location	Tuscaloosa	Unreached Percent	62.25%
Sitescape Category code	2	Religious but NOT Evang HHLDS	284
Sitescape Group code	2.1	Religious but NOT Evang PERCENT	10.06%
Sitescape Category	Townscape	Spiritual but Not Religious or Evang HHLDS	372
Sitescape Group	Small Towns	Spiritual but Not Religious PERCENT	13.21%
Density Assignment	K	NOT Evangelical NOT Interested HHLDS	1,099
Population Pattern	10000-50000-10000	NOT Evangelical NOT Interested PERCENT	38.98%

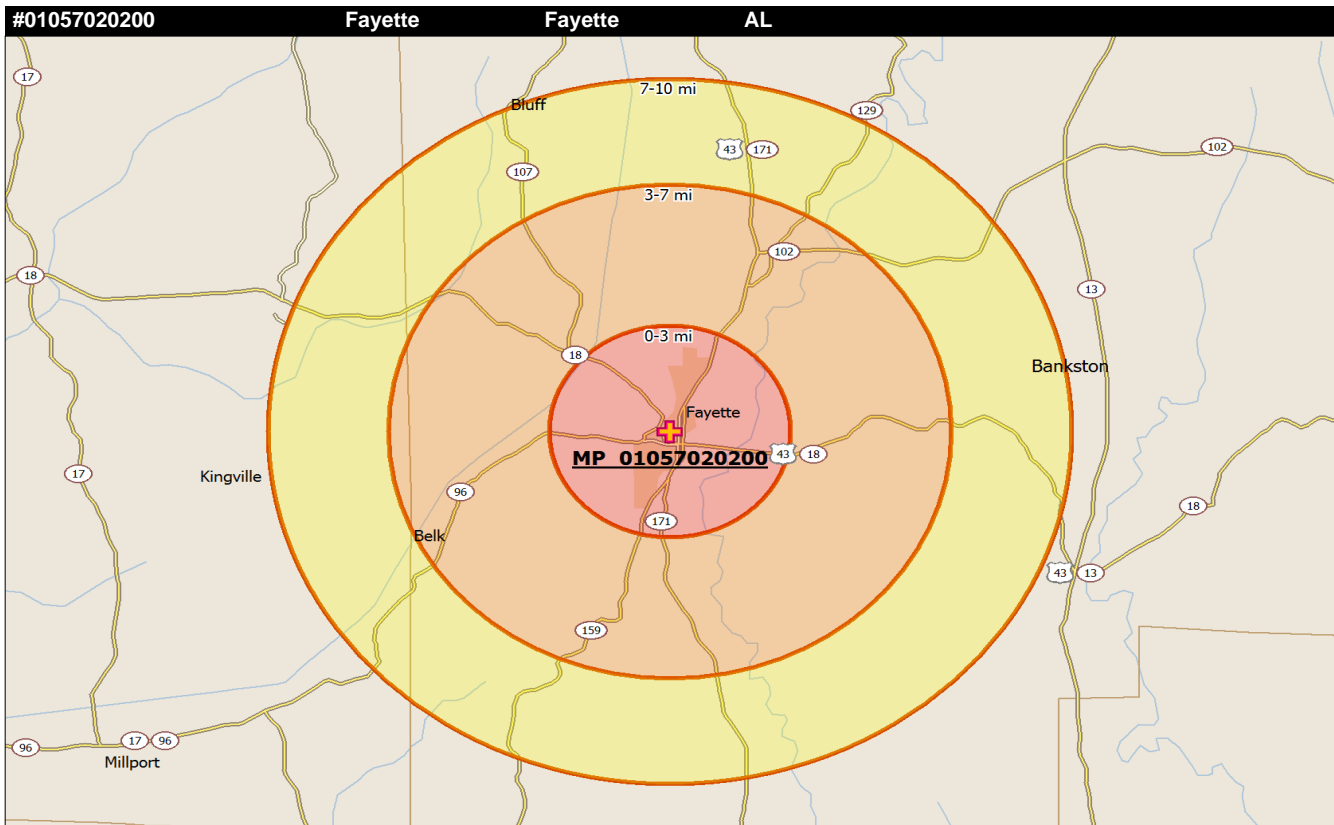
3 MILE RING COMMUNITY TYPES		3 MILE RING COUNTY TYPES	
Upscale Community	4.22%	Low Education County	False
Mainstay Community	65.12%	Low Employment County	False
Working Community	4.19%	Persistent Poverty County	False
Country Community	21.33%	Population Loss County	False
Aspiring Community	2.06%	Nonmetro Recreation County	False
Urban Community	3.09%	Retirement Destination County	False

3 MILE RING DIVERSITY INDEX (Least 0-Most 100)		3 MILE RING COUNTY TYPES	
Language Diversity Index	1.76	Racial Diversity Index	16.01
Ancestry Diversity Index	82.56	Diversity Composite Index	13.02
Foreign Born Diversity Index	25.26	Population Density Index	18.88

Data Sources: IICM SITESCAPE; Simmons Market Research Bureau, ScanUS

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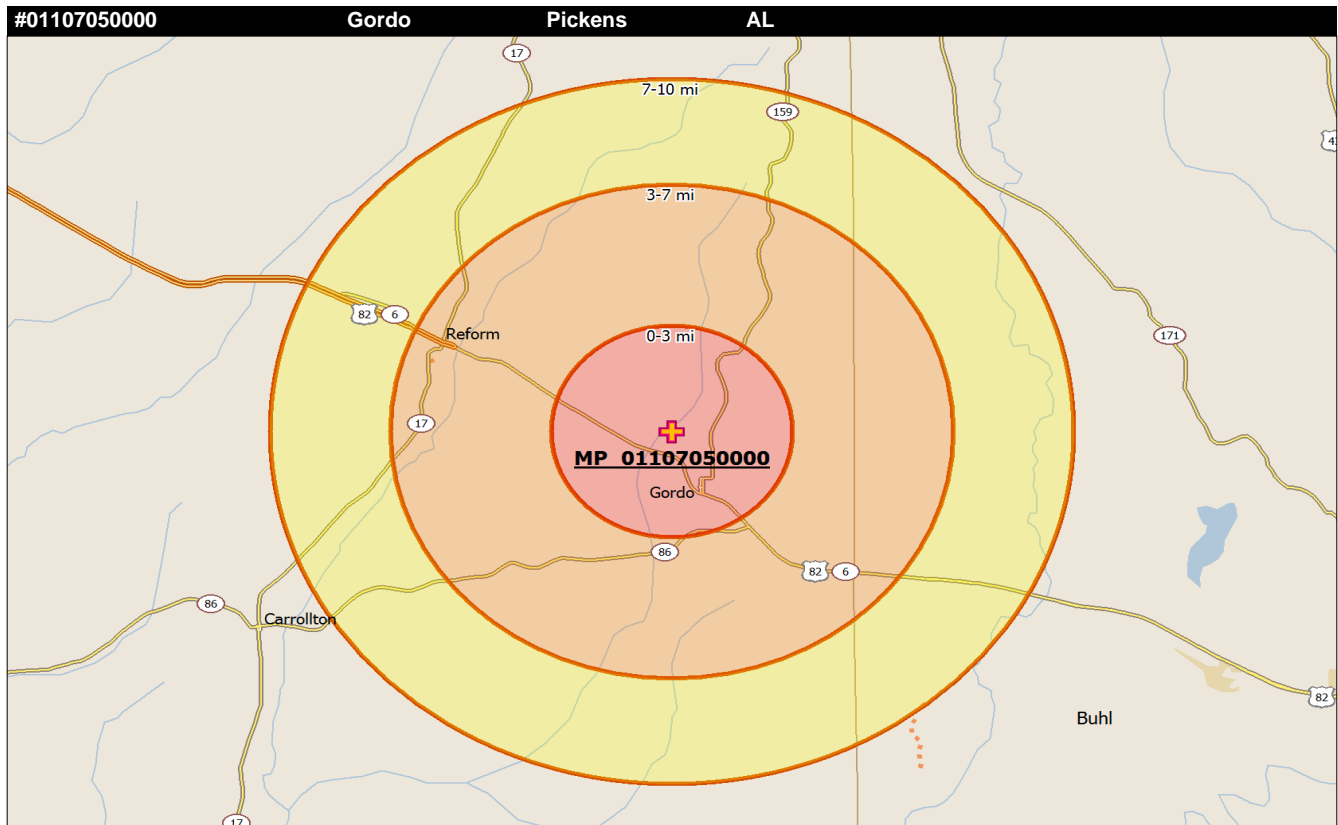
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8 LOCATION RANK IN REGIONAL SITESCAPE		3 MILE RING SPIRITUALITY STATUS	
Census Tract	#01057020200	Total Households in 3 mi Ring	2,332
CT Centroid Latitude	33.70052	Active Evangelical HHLDS	660
CT Centroid Longitude	-87.85247	Active Evangelical PERCENT	28.32%
City Location	Fayette	Unreached HHLDS	1,555
County Location	Fayette	Unreached Percent	66.67%
Sitescape Category code	2	Religious but NOT Evang HHLDS	396
Sitescape Group code	2.1	Religious but NOT Evang PERCENT	16.97%
Sitescape Category	Townscape	Spiritual but Not Religious or Evang HHLDS	227
Sitescape Group	Small Towns	Spiritual but Not Religious PERCENT	9.72%
Density Assignment	K	NOT Evangelical NOT Interested HHLDS	935
Population Pattern	10000-2500-2500	NOT Evangelical NOT Interested PERCENT	40.1%

3 MILE RING COMMUNITY TYPES		3 MILE RING COUNTY TYPES	
Upscale Community	6.43%	Low Education County	True
Mainstay Community	5.79%	Low Employment County	False
Working Community	46.78%	Persistent Poverty County	False
Country Community	16.94%	Populaltion Loss County	False
Aspiring Community	17.2%	Nonmetro Recreation County	False
Urban Community	6.99%	Retirement Destination County	False

3 MILE RING DIVERSITY INDEX (Least 0-Most 100)		3 MILE RING COUNTY TYPES	
Language Diversity Index	5.62	Racial Diversity Index	43.33
Ancestry Diversity Index	25.17	Diversity Composite Index	7.47
Foreign Born Diversity Index	47.22	Population Density Index	16.35



9 LOCATION RANK IN REGIONAL SITESCAPE		3 MILE RING SPIRITUALITY STATUS	
Census Tract	#01107050000	Total Households in 3 mi Ring	1,121
CT Centroid Latitude	33.34421	Active Evangelical HHLDS	394
CT Centroid Longitude	-87.90749	Active Evangelical PERCENT	35.18%
City Location	Gordo	Unreached HHLDS	702
County Location	Pickens	Unreached Percent	62.59%
Sitescape Category code	2	Religious but NOT Evang HHLDS	180
Sitescape Group code	2.1	Religious but NOT Evang PERCENT	16.04%
Sitescape Category	Townscape	Spiritual but Not Religious or Evang HHLDS	102
Sitescape Group	Small Towns	Spiritual but Not Religious PERCENT	9.07%
Density Assignment	K	NOT Evangelical NOT Interested HHLDS	425
Population Pattern	10000-10000-10000	NOT Evangelical NOT Interested PERCENT	37.92%

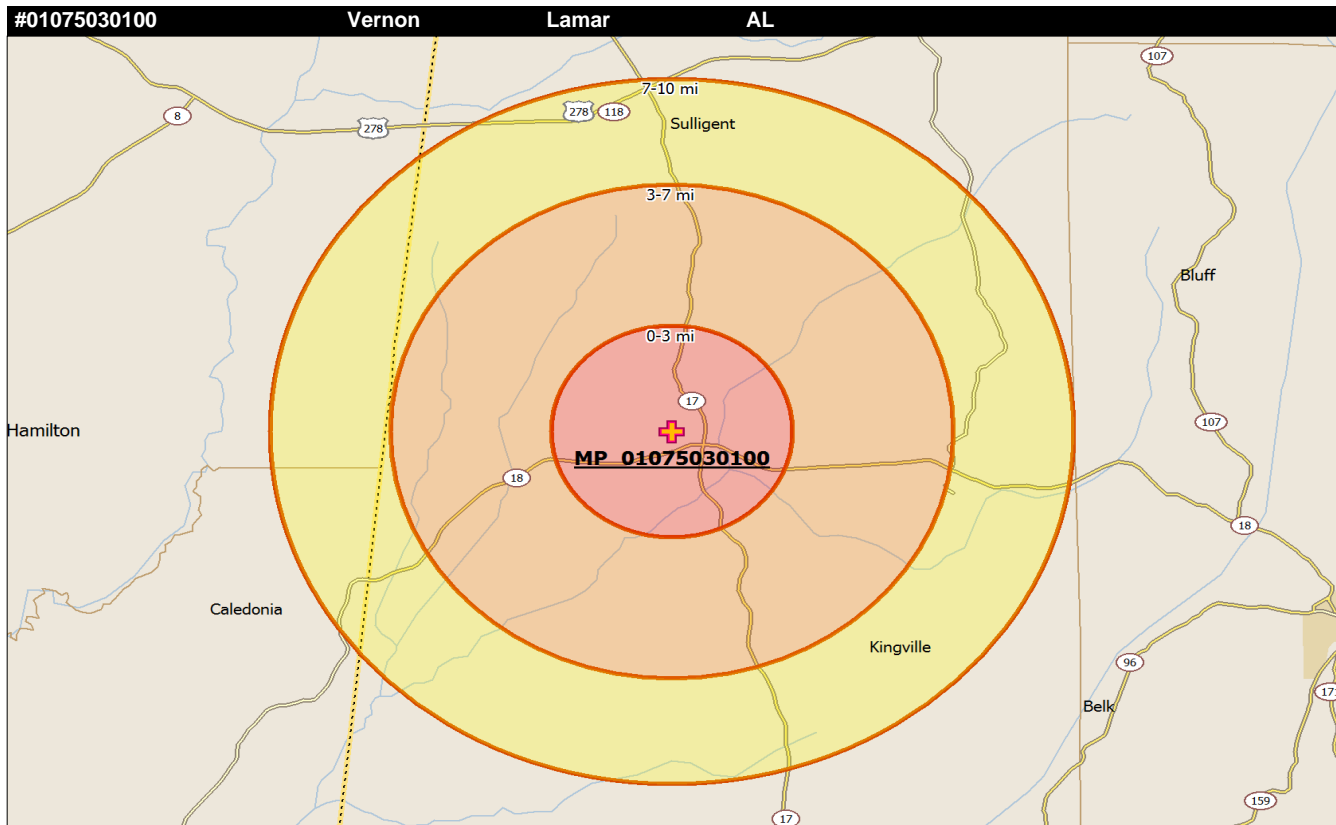
3 MILE RING COMMUNITY TYPES		3 MILE RING COUNTY TYPES	
Upscale Community	2.23%	Low Education County	False
Mainstay Community	11.6%	Low Employment County	True
Working Community	7.94%	Persistent Poverty County	True
Country Community	41.39%	Population Loss County	False
Aspiring Community	18.82%	Nonmetro Recreation County	False
Urban Community	18.02%	Retirement Destination County	False

3 MILE RING DIVERSITY INDEX (Least 0-Most 100)		3 MILE RING COUNTY TYPES	
Language Diversity Index	2.17	Racial Diversity Index	47.49
Ancestry Diversity Index	36.21	Diversity Composite Index	5.98
Foreign Born Diversity Index	0.00	Population Density Index	9.44

Data Sources: IICM SITESCAPE; Simmons Market Research Bureau, ScanUS

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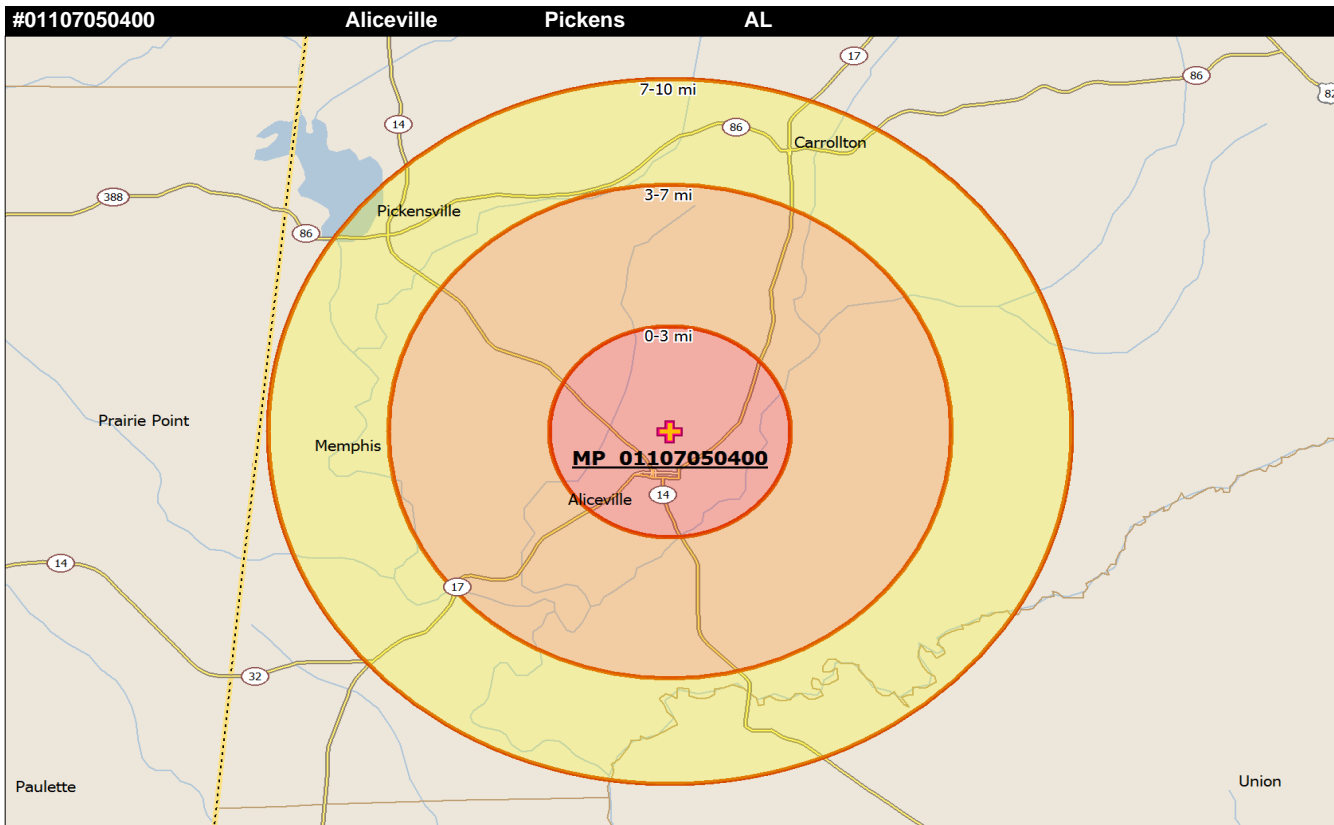
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10 LOCATION RANK IN REGIONAL SITESCAPE		3 MILE RING SPIRITUALITY STATUS	
Census Tract	#01075030100	Total Households in 3 mi Ring	1,287
CT Centroid Latitude	33.76055	Active Evangelical HHLDS	642
CT Centroid Longitude	-88.11628	Active Evangelical PERCENT	49.87%
City Location	Vernon	Unreached HHLDS	733
County Location	Lamar	Unreached Percent	56.93%
Sitescape Category code	2	Religious but NOT Evang HHLDS	147
Sitescape Group code	2.1	Religious but NOT Evang PERCENT	11.4%
Sitescape Category	Townscape	Spiritual but Not Religious or Evang HHLDS	105
Sitescape Group	Small Towns	Spiritual but Not Religious PERCENT	8.16%
Density Assignment	I3	NOT Evangelical NOT Interested HHLDS	482
Population Pattern	10000-2500-10000	NOT Evangelical NOT Interested PERCENT	37.42%

3 MILE RING COMMUNITY TYPES		3 MILE RING COUNTY TYPES	
Upscale Community	0.85%	Low Education County	True
Mainstay Community	7.3%	Low Employment County	False
Working Community	31.08%	Persistent Poverty County	False
Country Community	44.29%	Populaltion Loss County	False
Aspiring Community	3.26%	Nonmetro Recreation County	False
Urban Community	13.13%	Retirement Destination County	False

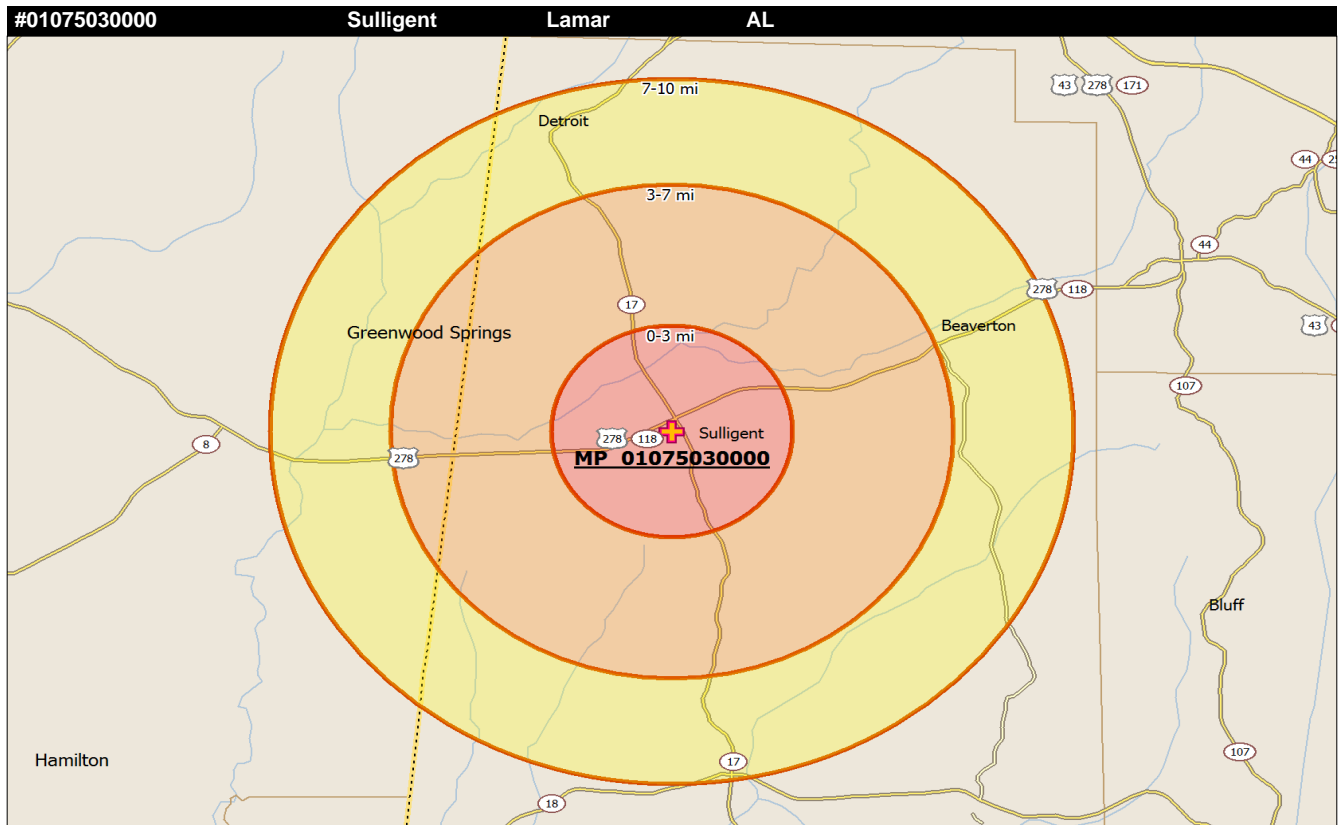
3 MILE RING DIVERSITY INDEX (Least 0-Most 100)		3 MILE RING COUNTY TYPES	
Language Diversity Index	3.11	Racial Diversity Index	25.08
Ancestry Diversity Index	42.30	Diversity Composite Index	7.97
Foreign Born Diversity Index	26.14	Population Density Index	10.17



11 LOCATION RANK IN REGIONAL SITESCAPE		3 MILE RING SPIRITUALITY STATUS	
Census Tract	#01107050400	Total Households in 3 mi Ring	1,291
CT Centroid Latitude	33.13542	Active Evangelical HHLDS	360
CT Centroid Longitude	-88.14095	Active Evangelical PERCENT	27.87%
City Location	Aliceville	Unreached HHLDS	908
County Location	Pickens	Unreached Percent	70.37%
Sitescape Category code	2	Religious but NOT Evang HHLDS	362
Sitescape Group code	2.1	Religious but NOT Evang PERCENT	28.01%
Sitescape Category	Townscape	Spiritual but Not Religious or Evang HHLDS	47
Sitescape Group	Small Towns	Spiritual but Not Religious PERCENT	3.68%
Density Assignment	K	NOT Evangelical NOT Interested HHLDS	538
Population Pattern	10000-10000-2500	NOT Evangelical NOT Interested PERCENT	41.69%

3 MILE RING COMMUNITY TYPES		3 MILE RING COUNTY TYPES	
Upscale Community	0.23%	Low Education County	False
Mainstay Community	1.24%	Low Employment County	True
Working Community	5.27%	Persistent Poverty County	True
Country Community	0.54%	Populaltion Loss County	False
Aspiring Community	39.04%	Nonmetro Recreation County	False
Urban Community	53.68%	Retirement Destination County	False

3 MILE RING DIVERSITY INDEX (Least 0-Most 100)		3 MILE RING COUNTY TYPES	
Language Diversity Index	1.70	Racial Diversity Index	44.31
Ancestry Diversity Index	7.10	Diversity Composite Index	4.50
Foreign Born Diversity Index	14.24	Population Density Index	10.77



12 LOCATION RANK IN REGIONAL SITESCAPE		3 MILE RING SPIRITUALITY STATUS	
Census Tract	#01075030000	Total Households in 3 mi Ring	1,119
CT Centroid Latitude	33.92181	Active Evangelical HHLDS	506
CT Centroid Longitude	-88.12454	Active Evangelical PERCENT	45.21%
City Location	Sulligent	Unreached HHLDS	682
County Location	Lamar	Unreached Percent	60.93%
Sitescape Category code	1	Religious but NOT Evang HHLDS	165
Sitescape Group code	1.2	Religious but NOT Evang PERCENT	14.7%
Sitescape Category	Countryscape	Spiritual but Not Religious or Evang HHLDS	98
Sitescape Group	Distant Settlements	Spiritual but Not Religious PERCENT	8.74%
Density Assignment	K	NOT Evangelical NOT Interested HHLDS	430
Population Pattern	2500-10000-2500	NOT Evangelical NOT Interested PERCENT	38.39%

3 MILE RING COMMUNITY TYPES		3 MILE RING COUNTY TYPES	
Upscale Community	1.79%	Low Education County	True
Mainstay Community	1.25%	Low Employment County	False
Working Community	26.81%	Persistent Poverty County	False
Country Community	34.41%	Population Loss County	False
Aspiring Community	5.99%	Nonmetro Recreation County	False
Urban Community	29.67%	Retirement Destination County	False

3 MILE RING DIVERSITY INDEX (Least 0-Most 100)		3 MILE RING COUNTY TYPES	
Language Diversity Index	2.80	Racial Diversity Index	38.79
Ancestry Diversity Index	45.91	Diversity Composite Index	9.15
Foreign Born Diversity Index	17.51	Population Density Index	4.53

Data Sources: IICM SITESCAPE; Simmons Market Research Bureau, ScanUS

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## Interpreting Your Mission Point Report

Your Mission Point Report has a number of key factors about the 3 mile ring around the census tract centroid that is referenced. These notes review these factors.

### 1. Census Tract

Each location is based upon a 3 mile ring study around the center of one of the 65,370 census tracts in the United States. For more information about a census tract please consult the US Census Bureau website or you can read the short article on census tracts at Wikipedia.

### 2. Latitude and Longitude

The latitude and longitude of the center of the census tract is provided for GPS purposes.

### 3. City Location

The City Location refers to the Census Place that is associated with the census tract location.

### 4. County Location

The County Location refers to the County in which the census tract is located.

### 5. SITESCAPE Category and SITESCAPE Category Code

The SITESCAPE Category refers to a typology that was created by IICM based on a number of factors in order to differentiate between types of rural, town, suburb, and city locations. The SITESCAPE Categories have been used in academic studies as an indexing tool to compare similar contexts.

### 6. SITESCAPE Group and SITESCAPE Group Code

The SITESCAPE Group label and code refers to divisions within the broader countryscape, townscape, suburbscape and cityscape types.

### 7. Density Pattern

The SITESCAPE measures the population density for the 0-3 mile band, 3-7 mile band, and 7-10 mile band around a census tract centroid (center). The relationship between the density of these three bands produces 17 different density patterns. These density patterns may be grouped into one of three groups: increasing, decreasing, and constant variance. But who cares? Why is this important? It is significant because density patterns provide a glimpse into the type of location that is being evaluated.

There are three types of density patterns: Increasing, Decreasing and Constant. The density pattern when combined with the population pattern will enable you to get a feel for the type of community dynamics that are likely to be occurring within the location.



**Increasing Density Patterns**

Locations with increasing patterns are typically located at the outer fringe of more highly urbanized areas. In many cases these are suburban areas (with less density) that are outside more dense areas (like inner city areas). There are 5 types of Increasing Density patterns (see the page 10):

- A - Increasing Density at a Greater Rate
- B - Increasing Density at a Similar Rate
- C - Increasing Density at a Lesser Rate
- D - Increased followed by Density Leveling Off
- E - Increased followed by Decreased Density

**Constant Density Patterns**

Locations with a constant variance are located within a similar pattern that dominates the ten mile ring. Thus, the degree of density in these situations may give some indication of the geographical extent of similar contexts. There are 3 types of Constant Density patterns

- F - No Change followed by Increased Density
- G - No Change remaining Constant Density Level
- H - No Change followed by Decreased Density

**Decreasing Density Patterns**

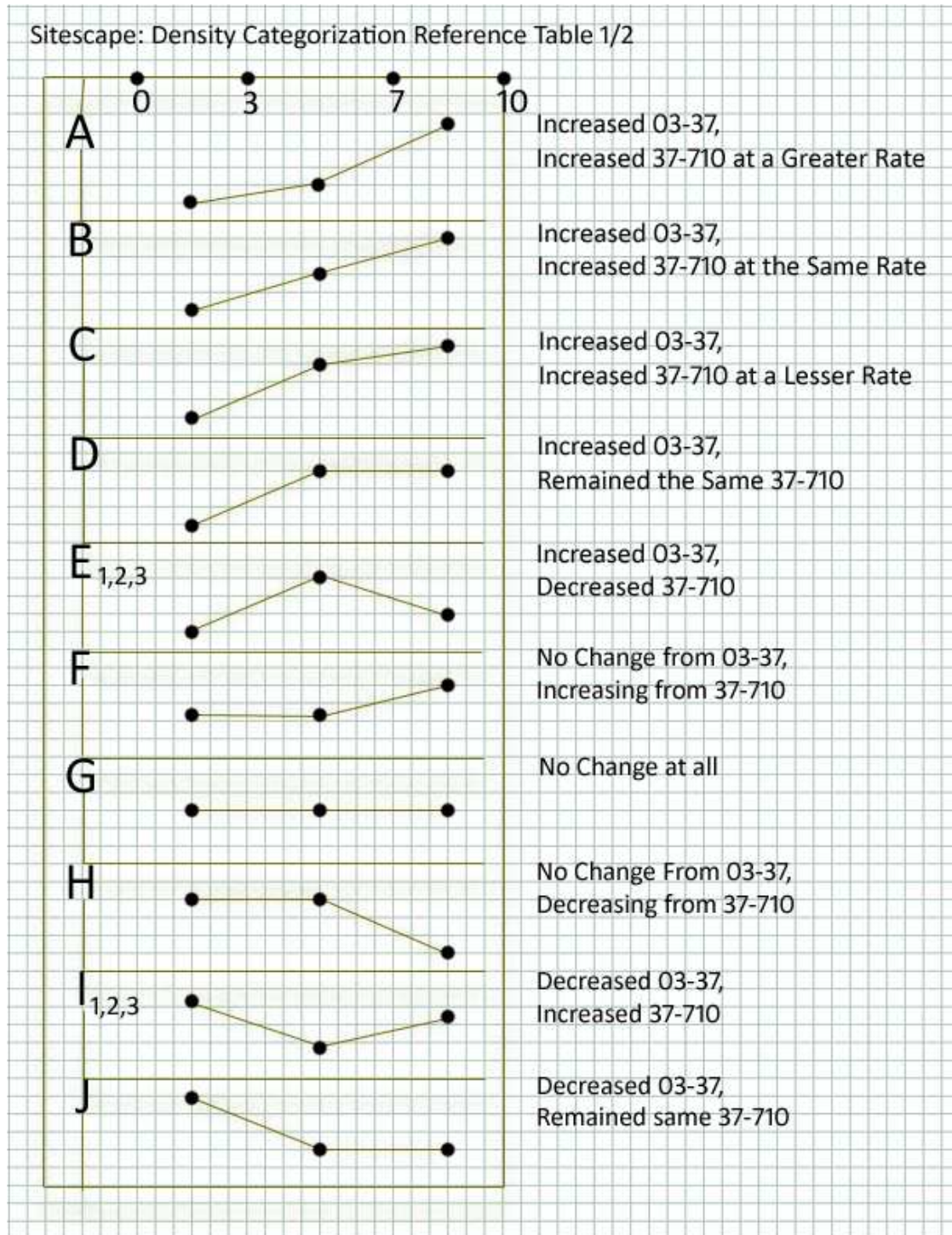
Locations with decreasing patterns are typically more urbanized than those areas nearby. This may mean that commuting may tend to flow inward to this type of location. There are 5 types Decreasing Density patterns:

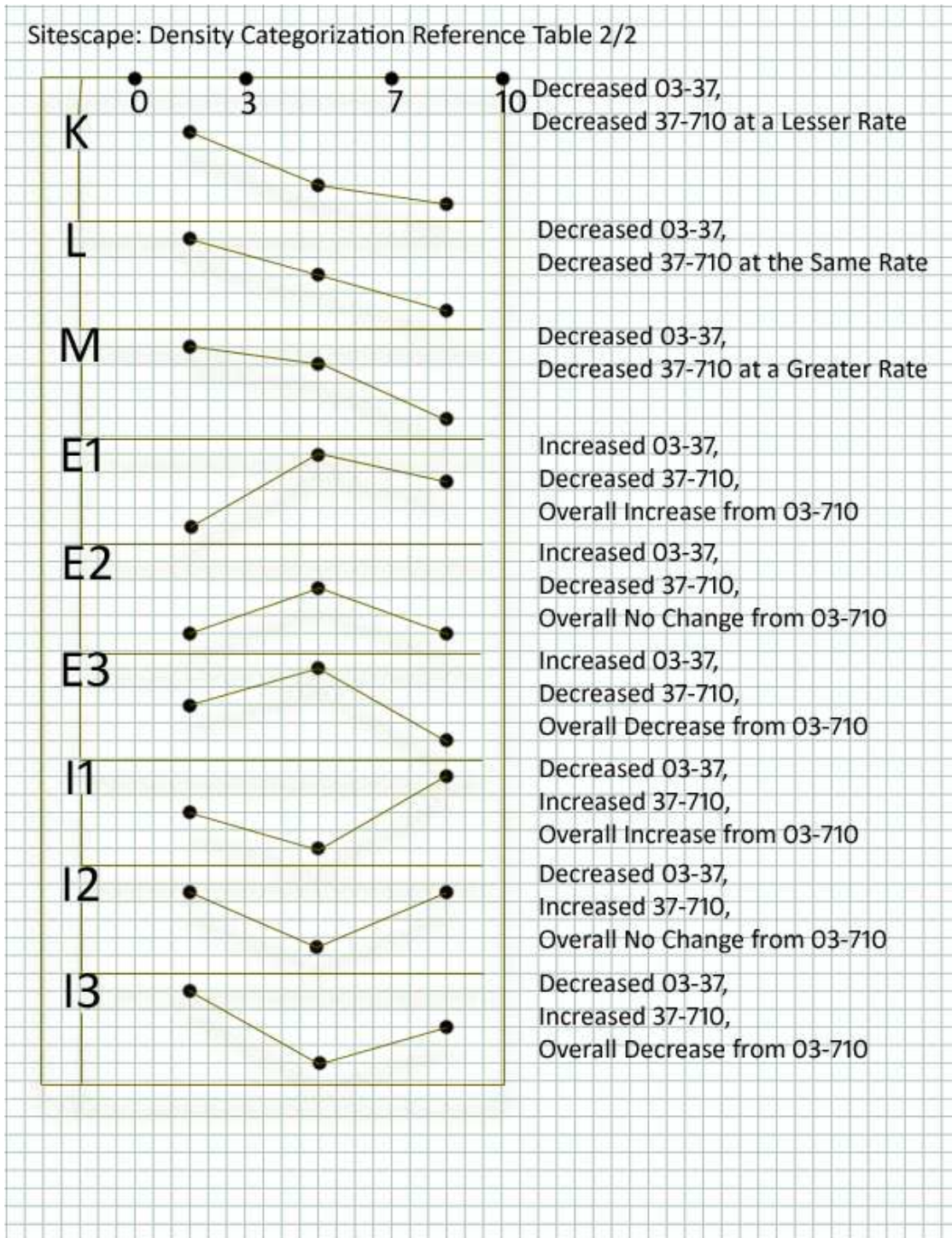
- I - Decreased Density followed by Density Increase
- J - Decreased Density followed by Density Leveling Off
- K - Decreasing Density at a Lesser Rate
- L - Decreasing Density at a Similar Rate
- M - Decreasing Density at a Greater Rate

**8. Population Pattern**

The population pattern refers to the number of households within the 0-3 mile band, the 3-7 mile band, and the 7-10 mile band. For example, in the Population Pattern #100000-250000-100000", the first number represents the 0-3 mile band; the second number represents the 3-7 mile band, and the third number represents the 7-10 mile band.

- 100000 -- means that the population within the 0-3 mile band is between 50000 and 100000
- 250000 -- means that the population within the 3-7 mile band is between 100000 and 250000
- 100000 -- means that the population within the 7-10 mile band is between 50000 and 100000





## 9. Using Density and Population Patterns

Example: #1 rank in Osecola, FL has the Density Pattern: K and the Population Pattern: #100000-250000-100000. The density pattern, K, is "Decreasing Density at a Lesser Rate".

### Interpreting the Population Pattern in light of the Density Pattern

When the Population Pattern is interpreted in light of the density pattern "K", then, one will note the following:

1. While the population is greatest in the 3-7 mile band, it is much more dispersed across the landscape, with a significant less amount of density.
2. While the population in the 7-10 mile band is much less than the 3-7 mile band, its density continues to decrease compared to either of the first two bands.

### What Does This Mean in Practical Terms?

1. The 0-3 mile band is much more concentrated in density -- which could mean:
  - greater sense of community and location identity among the population
  - probably a greater need for a larger number of smaller congregations -- meeting needs of diverse groups within the more densely populated area -- maybe servicing groups of about 135-150 in max attendance -- this depends on the degree of diversity within the concentrated band
2. The 3-7 mile band, while having a greater amount of population is more dispersed -- which could mean:
  - probably more "suburban-like" and commuter oriented
  - which means a more "regional" approach to church planting may be justified
3. The 7-10 mile band, with less population and less density may indicate a more "fringe type" location -- which means one should explore the type of lifestyle segments in this area -- are they more "rural-oriented" pointing back to populations who have been there for generations OR are they more "exurbanites" -- affluent yuppies fleeing the urban areas building upscale enclaves -- either direction represents a unique church planting environment

## 10. Total Households in 0-3mi Band

This gives the total number of households in the 0-3 mile ring around the center of the census tract location.

## 11. Active Evangelical HHLDS and PERCENT

The *Active Evangelical Presence* refers to the number of households that we would expect to be in attendance in an evangelical church on an average Sunday in the location. This information is based upon the evangelical attendance patterns by county compiled by Dave Olson of the AmericanChurch.org that has been cross-referenced against a number of other datasets. The HHLDS count gives the number of households and the PERCENT gives the percentage of active evangelicals.

## 12. Unreached HHLDS and PERCENT

The *Unreached Status* refers to an estimate of the number of households in the 3 mile ring of the census tract centroid (center) that do not consider themselves to be evangelical Christian. An evangelical Christian is a person who professes to have accepted Jesus Christ as his or her personal Lord and Savior. This is based on a survey conducted by the Simmons Market Research Bureau.

### **13. Religious But Not Evangelical HHLDS and PERCENT**

The *Religious but not Evangelical* category refers to an estimate of the number of households in the 3 mile ring of the census tract centroid (center) that do not consider themselves to be an evangelical Christian but consider themselves to be a part of some established religion or religious institution. The "religious but not evangelical" person usually is committed to a non-evangelical Christian denomination or some other world religious or religious group.

### **14. Spiritual But Not Religious HHLDS and PERCENT**

The *Spiritual but not Religious* category refers to an estimate of the number of households in the 3 mile ring of the census tract centroid (center) that are interested in spirituality but are not interested in organized religion. This category includes alternative spiritualities and new age movements.

### **15. Not Evangelical Not Interested HHLDS and PERCENT**

The *Non-Evangelical and Not Interested* category refers to an estimate of the number of households in the 3 mile ring of the census tract centroid (center) that do not consider themselves to be an evangelical Christian and are not interested in spirituality or religion.

### **16. Upscale Community PERCENT**

The *Upscale Community* category refers to the percentage of households in the 3 mile ring that are considered affluent or upscale compared to the national average. These well-to-do households not only appear in suburbs, but also in small towns, on the metro fringe, and sometimes in urban environments.

### **17. Mainstay Community PERCENT**

The *Mainstay* (meaning: pillar, bulwark, anchor) Community category refers to the percentage of households in the 3 mile ring that are established families primarily in secondary cities and small and medium-sized towns. Typically these households are the older, stable families who often are the "pillars" of smaller communities.

### **18. Working Community PERCENT**

The *Working Community* refers to the percentage of households in the 3 mile ring whose adults work in blue-collar occupations. Typically these household workers are members of the working class who typically performs manual labor and earns an hourly wage.

### **19. Country Community PERCENT**

The *County Community* refers to the percentage of households in the 3 mile ring who live in large and isolated areas of an open country with low population density. Many of these work in agriculture or mining.

### **20. Aspiring Community PERCENT**

The *Aspiring Community* refers to the percentage of households in the 3 mile ring who typically are young, single, single parents, or childless couples; and typically living in multi-family housing. Some are students but most are employed. Included in this community are group-quarters such as: college dormitories, military housing, and prison facilities.



## 21. Urban Community PERCENT

The *Urban Community* refers to the percentage of households in the 3 mile ring who live in high population density areas. The Census Bureau defines any area with 2500 population or more as “urbanized.” Urban Communities appear in the downtown and inner city areas of towns, cities, and metropolitan areas. It is not unusual for a densely populated area of a small town to be considered “an urban community.” What they have in common is density of population and “town” or “city” living.

## 22. Low Education County TYPE

*Low-education counties* are those counties where at least one of every four adults age 25-64 has not completed high school. About 20% of the counties in the United States have been classified in this category with more than 90% of these appearing in the non-metro Southern region with historically large shares of Blacks and Hispanics. Similarly, low-education counties in the Western region are concentrated in areas with large ethnic minority populations, such as California’s Central Valley and portions of Arizona and New Mexico.

## 23. Low Employment County TYPE

*Low-employment counties* are those counties where employment rates are below 65%. Mostly rural, these counties have minimal capacity for generating jobs. These counties are found primarily in southern Appalachia, the Mississippi Delta, and other predominately Black areas in the Southern region of the US; in Indian and Hispanic areas of the Southwest region; and the timber and agricultural areas of the Northwest region.

## 24. Persistent Poverty County TYPE

Counties are *persistently poor* if 20 percent or more of their populations were living in poverty over the last 30 years. Although large numbers of the poor live in major metropolitan areas, poverty rates have been consistently higher in rural areas since the 1960s, and these counties are not evenly distributed across the United States. A large number of these counties are in the Southern region of the United States.

## 25. Population Loss County TYPE

*Population loss counties* are those counties that have lost population over the last 30 years. Typically population loss signals weak economic conditions. These rural and small town communities often suffer out-migration due to loss of farm-related jobs resulting from technological advances in agriculture. Clusters of population loss counties may be found in the Great Plains (particularly North Dakota), the lower Mississippi Valley, and central Appalachia.

## 26. Nonmetro Recreation County TYPE

*Nonmetropolitan recreation counties* are those counties that have a major dependence on recreational activity. This dependence is measured based upon the percentage of employment, the annual earnings, and percentage of housing units that are tied to recreational use. About 14% of US counties have been designated as Nonmetro Recreation Counties. These counties are particularly common in the Great Lakes States, the Mountain West, and upland areas of the Northeast region.

## 27. Retirement Destination County TYPE

*Retirement destination counties* are those counties where the number of residents age 60 and older grew by 15 percent or more over the last 30 years due to in-migration. The majority of these counties are nonmetro counties where retirees are moving to small town and rural communities.

### **28. Language Diversity INDEX**

*Language Diversity* of a three mile ring around the center of the Census Tract on a percentile scale compared with all other Census Tracts' rings in the US. The most diverse location is that which has the *most number of languages* represented within the three mile ring.

### **29. Ancestry Diversity INDEX**

*Ancestry Diversity* of a three mile ring around the center of the Census Tract on a percentile scale compared with all other Census Tracts' rings in the US. The most diverse location is that which has the *most number of ancestries* represented within the three mile ring.

### **30. Foreign Born Diversity INDEX**

*Foreign Born Diversity* of a three mile ring around the center of the Census Tract on a percentile scale compared with all other Census Tracts' rings in the US. The most diverse location is that which has the *largest number of countries of origin represented among the foreign born population* within the three mile ring.

### **31. Racial Diversity INDEX**

*Racial Diversity* of a three mile ring around the center of the Census Tract on a percentile scale compared with all other Census Tracts' rings in the US. The most diverse location is that which has the *most even balance between a large number of races* represented within the three mile ring.

### **32. Diversity Composite INDEX**

*Diversity Composite* of a three mile ring around the center of the Census Tract on a percentile scale compared with all other Census Tracts' rings in the US. The Diversity Composite Index weights the language, ancestry, foreign born, and racial diversity indexes into an overall diversity score. This particular location is then compared to all other locations in the US.

### **33. Population Density INDEX**

*Population Density* of a three mile ring around the Census Tract on a percentile scale compared with all other Census Tracts' bands in the US. Population Density refers to the amount of population per square mile within the three mile ring.



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