

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) for Southeastern Wisconsin

CEB Task Force Meeting
March 20, 2026



What is the CEDS?



- Public/private sector collaboration to develop a strategy-driven plan for regional economic development
- Input provided from M7, Regional Economic Partnership (REP), and other stakeholders
- 2026-2030 CEDS will supplant the currently adopted 2021-2025 CEDS



Why Prepare a CEDDS?

- EDA requires a CEDDS to be updated every five years
- Adoption ensures that County and local governments with economically distressed areas remain eligible for EDA grants
 - EDA programs provide funding for infrastructure projects, revolving loan funds, and other business assistance programs
- Joint/regional planning efforts viewed favorably by other Federal agencies when reviewing proposed projects and grant requests
- An adopted CEDDS enables potential future designation of the Region as an Economic Development District (EDD)

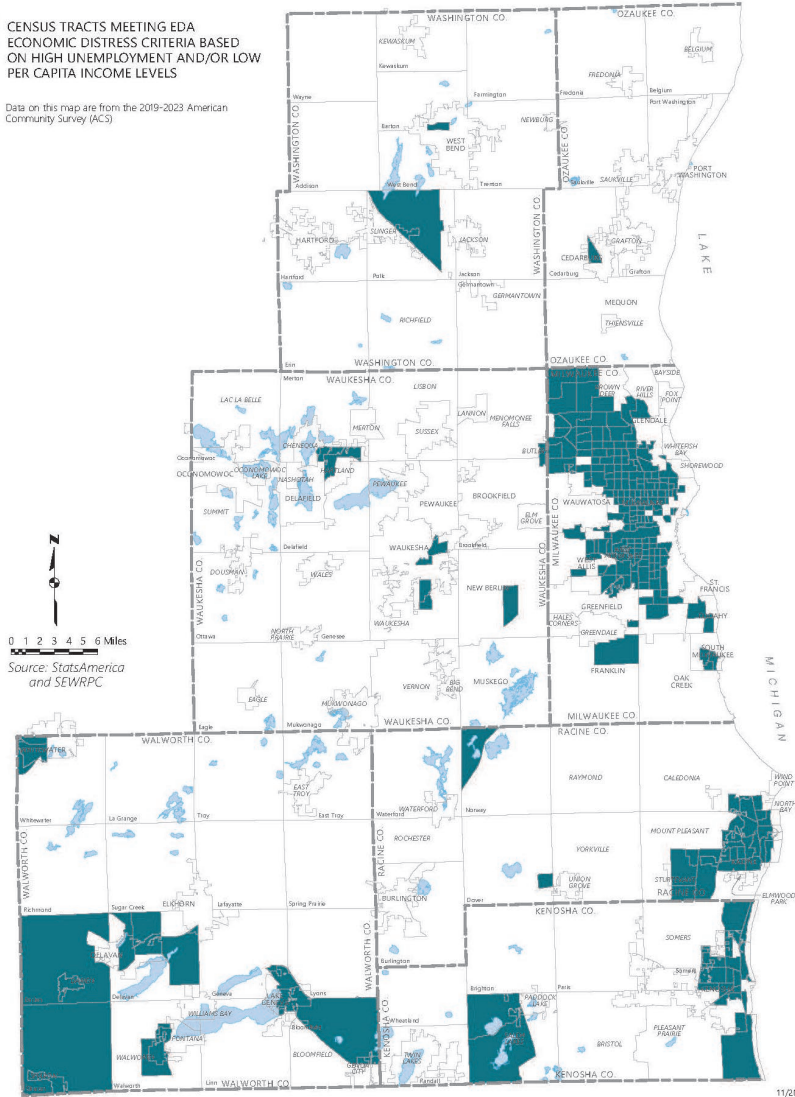


Distressed Census Tracts

Economically Distressed Areas in Southeastern Wisconsin: 2025

CENSUS TRACTS MEETING EDA ECONOMIC DISTRESS CRITERIA BASED ON HIGH UNEMPLOYMENT AND/OR LOW PER CAPITA INCOME LEVELS

Note: Data on this map are from the 2019-2023 American Community Survey (ACS)

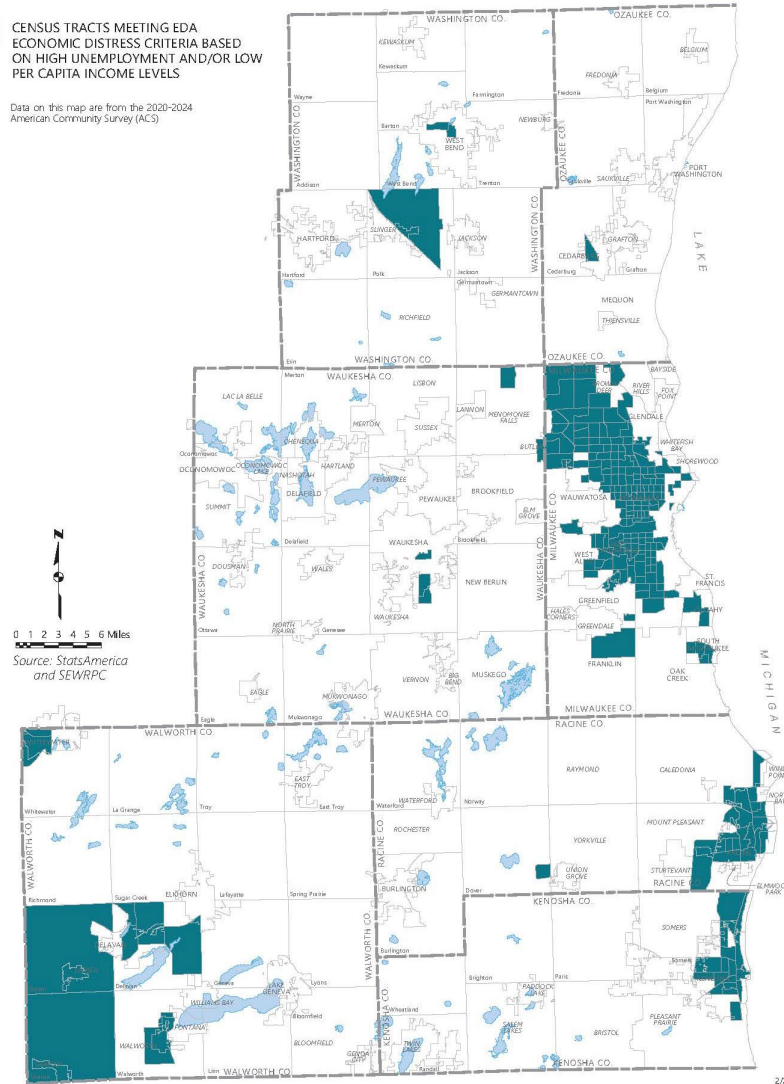


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2/2026





➤ Background data

➤ SWOT analysis

➤ Strategic Framework/Action Plan that include vision, goals, strategies, and actions

- Unity
- Growth
- Talent
- Livability
- Infrastructure

➤ Implementation

- Performance measures
- Ongoing and proposed economic development investments