SELMA NOW
OUR PRESENT. OUR FUTURE.

Appendix A

Contents

Overview

This appendix provides an overview of the enagement that informed the development of the strategic action plan. It includes community input, recurring themes, and priorities identified by residents and local leaders, ensuring that the plan reflects the needs and aspirations of the people of Selma and Dallas County.

Needs Assessment
Our starting point for action

Selma Now is a community-informed process to prepare a strategic action plan for the City of Selma and Dallas County, following the January 2023 tornadoes. This document includes a "snapshot" of vital statistics that will guide the development of actions and future implementation of the plan.

September 2024

Contents

Critical Findings

The City of Selma and Dallas County have great potential, but also face unique and deep rooted challenges. Through the initial research and analysis of previous reports and studies, a series of critical findings emerged.

1 **SELMA WAS THE FASTEST SHRINKING ALABAMA CITY IN 2023**

From July 1, 2022 to July 1, 2023, Selma lost 341 residents, bringing its official population estimate to 16,666. The 2% decline is the largest drop among Alabama cities with more than 10,000 residents in this single year.

2 **CLEARING TITLES HAS SLOWED RECOVERY**

Many vacant properties have been passed between generations of families without the involvement of local probate courts or a formal estate strategy.

3 **INFRASTRUCTURE IS DIFFICULT TO MAINTAIN DUE TO LOCATION & RESOURCES**

Many of the storm sewer mains servicing the city are buried beneath main roadways and intersections, making maintenance extremely difficult and expensive.

4 **STORM DRAINAGE SYSTEMS UNDER PERFORM DURING RAINFALL EVENTS**

Many of the system's components are over 100 years old and have begun to deteriorate due to natural degradation, especially in and around the oldest parts of the city.

5 **SELMA HAS AN ACUTE DEMAND FOR HOUSING THAT IS AFFORDABLE**

The January 12th tornadoes destroyed approximately 39% of Selma's existing housing stock, a loss of 1,300 homes in a single day.

6 **ASSESSED VALUES ARE LOW**

Gaps in available resources for development are directly tied to real estate values, making it difficult to induce housing development that will be profitable for builders.

7 **GROWING THE REVENUE BASE IS CRITICAL FOR SELMA'S ABILITY TO INVEST IN ITSELF**

Overall tax revenue has kept pace with inflation. However, sales taxes are the prime driver of revenue which makes the City very dependent on consumer-based spending.

8 **MANY NEIGHBORHOODS ARE NOT WALKABLE**

Lack of sidewalks, or sidewalks and streets in disrepair (uneven due to shifting of slabs; cracks, holes, and water seepage) create a barrier to mobility in many areas of the city.

9 **MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME IS LOWER THAN THE STATE**

The median household income in Selma is $31,084, approximately half of the state median of $59,674. Low-income wage-earning residents are often unable to qualify for needed financing.

10 **SELMA AND DALLAS COUNTY LAG BEHIND THE STATE IN BROADBAND AVAILABILITY**

Approximately 30% of housing units in the County are unserved and another 20% of addresses are under-served by current broadband coverage.

A Note About Data

This document reflects the data available at the time of analysis. Unless otherwise noted, the data is taken from the 2022 American Community Survey, collected and maintained by the Census Bureau. The ACS data is an estimate of the actual figures that would be obtained by interviewing the entire population. The estimates are subject to sample-to-sample variation and the reliability of data is typically lower in small areas.

The 2022 ACS data is the most recent data available, prior to the January 2023 tornadoes. Limited data is available post-tornado for direct comparison. A significant effort was undertakento create an accurate and complete base map for analysis. Additional information was sourced through public databases (as noted in the document) or converted to GIS layers from static sources (scuch as FEMA inventory maps). Existing land use was determined using County Assessor's data and a virtual "windshield" survey via Google Earth.

Needs Assessment
Our starting point for action

Selma inspires a calling for the greater good both locally and globally. Its history and built environment –neighborhoods, housing, infrastructure, commercial areas, parks, and community facilities– profoundly impact the experiences of the people who live in and visit Selma. This plan will align long term strategies for resilience with funding opportunities and needed capcity topics include land use, economic development, infrastructure, and housing.

A city within a county

Dallas County and its communities rely on one another to build the vitality of the community and the local economy. This process rests on the foundation of understanding where the County and City stand today and where they aspire to be in the future. In order to identify the starting point, a review of the conditions and trends affecting the key dimensions of Selma and Dallas County are essential.

Understanding existing conditions and trends

Establishing a solid understanding of challenges and assets of the City and County will help inform decision-making, identify future opportunities, and direct critical resources. This “snapshot” of Selma and Dallas County includes vital statistics which can benchmark the future progress of the community. Key indicators have been sampled across four broad categories to guide the creation of the action agenda that will come out of this process. These categories include:

Land Use

The land use section examines the City and County as a place to live, work, and play. This includes an assessment of the built and natural environment.

Housing

The land use section examines the conditions of neighborhoods and their ability to serve current and new residents.

Economic Development

The economic development section examines the health and diversity of the local economy along with prosperity of individuals and families.

Infrastructure

The infrastructure section examines the basic physical structures and facilities that support the necessary functions of the city.

Existing Plans & Studies

Through the research and analysis for the Long-Term Recovery process, the Planning Team leveraged existing plans, studies, and reports. These plans provided an opportunity to identify important findings from previous work and identify gaps or emergent opportunities. Some of the most relevant plans included:

- FEMA Recovery Playbook for Selma
- ″Re-imagining Selma, Alabama″
- Connecting Selma: An Active Transportation Plan
- Sanitary Sewer Infrastructure Assessment
- Ecotourism Development in the Black Belt
- Along with many others ...

Our Present. Our Future.

Selma is a historically significant place of pilgrimage for equality and democracy. The city serves as the gateway to the Black Belt with a storied history from the "Civil War to Civil Rights." Incorporated in 1820, Selma played a significant role in the Southern economy as the cotton capital of the state and a major munitions supplier for the Confederacy during the Civil War before emerging into the national spotlight as the location for mass voting rights demonstrations.

TORNADO IMPACTS

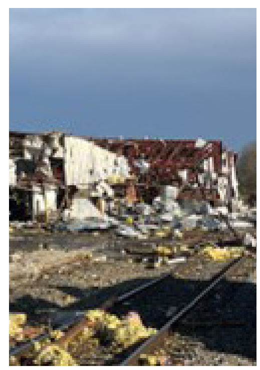
In January 2023, an EF2 tornado hit Selma and Dallas County. What was a challenging housing need in Selma — that has persisted for decades — became a full-on crisis when more than 1,300 homes were lost in a single day.

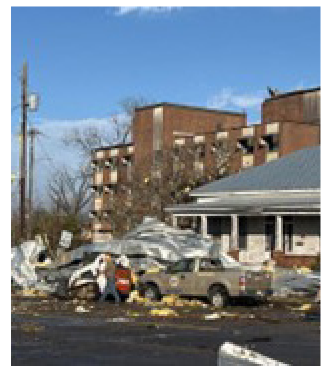
Prior to the tornado, housing challenges were exacerbated by a crumbling infrastructure that included deteriorated streets and antiquated sewer and drainage systems that caused significant flood damage. These structural issues, depressed new construction and dilapidated, vacant, and uninhabitable properties left low income residents at a loss for affordable housing.

Following the storm on January 12, 2023, many residents of Selma were forced to move to neighboring cities in Alabama or relocate to other states. Others were forced to live with relatives to meet their basic needs for shelter.

Years of economic decline have contributed to low median household incomes and high unemployment resulting in nearly impoverished conditions in Selma, especially among its predominantly Black/African American low-income residents.

While Selma and its residents have experienced marginalization, divestiture, and other civil rights challenges in the past, the city is determined and focused more than ever on efforts to revitalize itself in the areas of economic resurgence, housing creation, and employment enhancements.





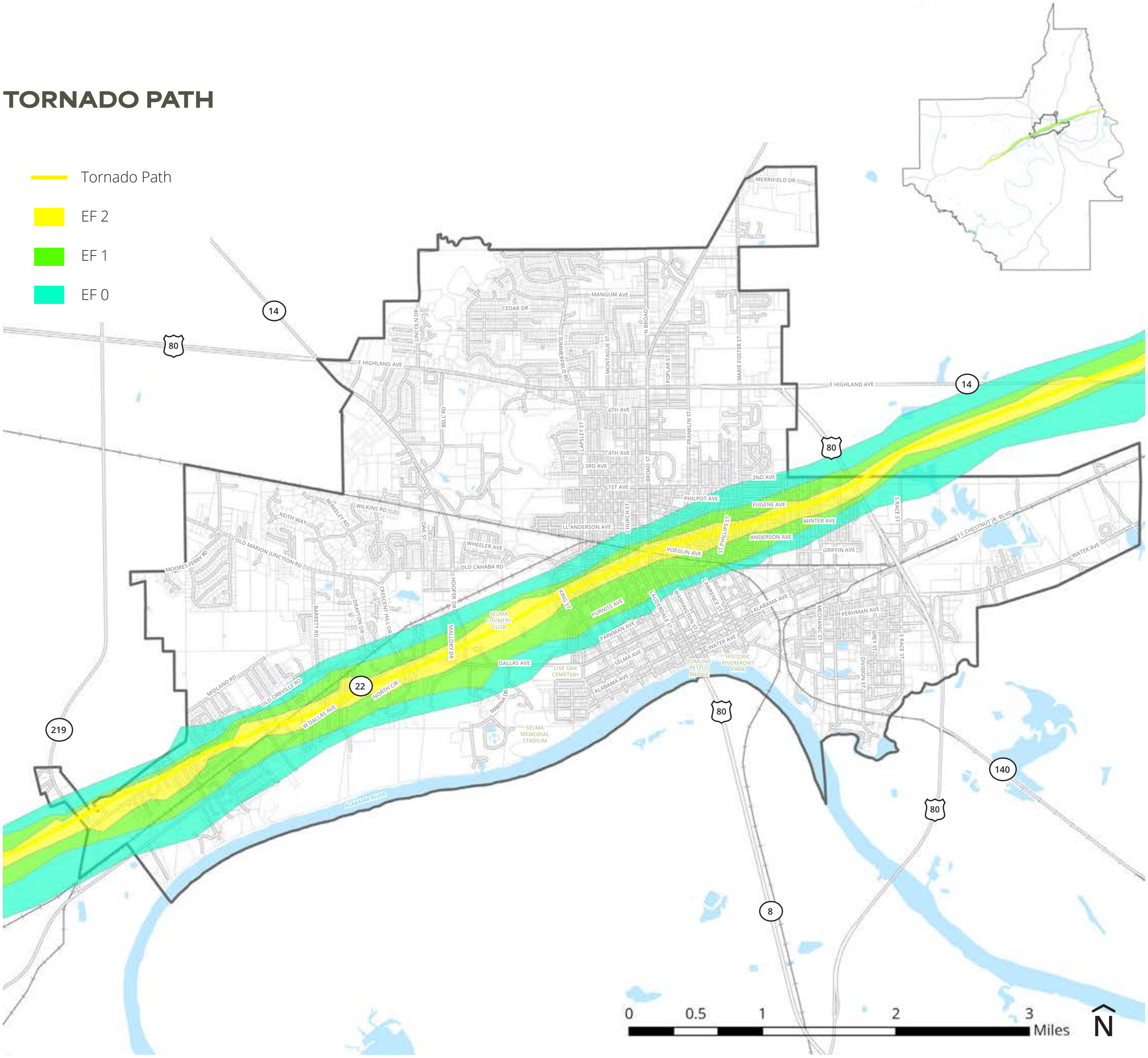
Source: FEMA

Tornado Destruction

39% of housing stock lost in one day

1,300 homes destroyed

TORNADO PATH



Metric	Selma Tornado
Rating	EF-2
Estimated Maximum Wind	130 mph
Maximum Path Width	950 yards
Approximate Start	1 NE Orville
Approximate End	2 SE Burnsville
Damage Path Length	23.22 miles
Damage Path Width	955 yards

According to the National Weather Service, strong to severe thunderstorms impacted Central Alabama during the morning and afternoon hours of Thursday, January 12th, 2023. Several supercell thunderstorms spawned multiple tornadoes which caused significant damage in many areas, including Selma.

Community Profile

The Community Profile section examines key demographic trends within Selma and Dallas County that are relevant to long-term recovery planning.

POPULATION

Shrinking population. The current (post tornado) population estimate for Selma is 16,666 people. This is a significant decrease from the 2020 population (17,960).

- Selma accounts for approximately half of the population of Dallas County.
- Since the tornadoes, many residents have been forced to move to neighboring cities in Alabama.

DEMOGRAPHICS

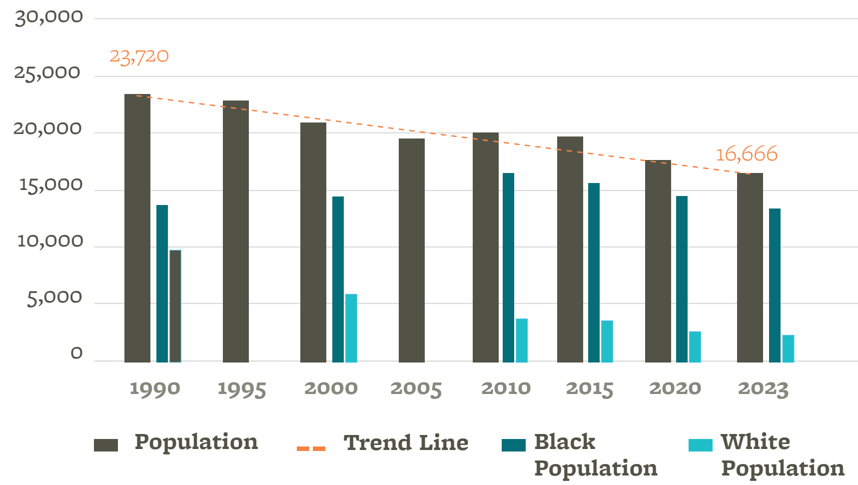
The heart of the Black Belt. The region is historically known for its rich soil and the agriculture economy in which the workers were enslaved African Americans. In 2022, there were 5 times more Black or African American residents (14,100) in Selma than any other race or ethnicity.

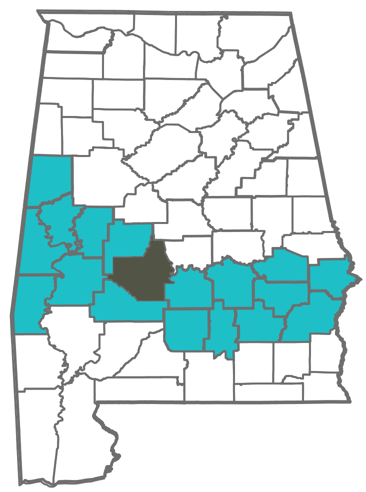
More households headed by older adults. The share of households headed by someone 65 years or older increased almost 5% between 2017 and 2022.

EDUCATION ATTAINMENT

Lower education than the state. Approximately 20% of people in Selma have a Bachelors degree or higher, compared to the state rate of 30%. The most common education level is a high school degree (37%).

TOTAL POPULATION 1990-2023





Dallas is one of 17 counties within the Black Belt. Nine out of the 10 poorest counties in Alabama are in this region.

SELMA QUICK FACTS

2.3
average household size

14,753
persons living below the poverty line

37
median age

7,456
households

$37,180
median household income

19.7%
pop. over age 25 with a Bachelor's degree

Dallas County At-a-Glance

PEOPLE

POPULATION

38,326
population
(2022 estimate)

-12%
-5,246
change in pop.
(2012-2022)

becoming older...

40.4
median age (years)
(2022)

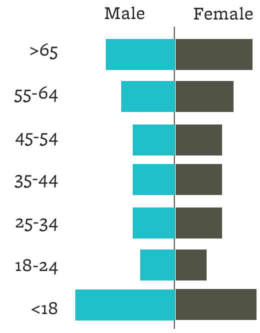
1.1
years
change
(2010-2022)

19.4%
age 65+
(2022)

7%
change
(2012-2022)

24%
age <18
(2022)

-2.5%
change
(2012-2022)



HOUSEHOLDS

14,753
households
(2022 estimate)

-8.8%
1,428
change in hh.
(2012-2022)

are getting

2.6
average hh. size (persons per hh.)
(2022)

-3.8%
change
(2012-2022)

fewer with children...

23.6%
hh. with children under age of 18
(2022)

-9%
change
(2012-2022)

fewer people living alone...

14.7%
single-person hh.
(2022)

-20%
change
(2012-2022)

PROSPERITY

ECONOMY & EMPLOYMENT

14,359
employed population
(2022 estimate)

22%
employed in manufacturing
(2022 estimate)

INDUSTRY

Percent of people employed in the top 5 industries

PERSONAL PROSPERITY

$37,180
median household income
(2022)
$59,609 Alabama

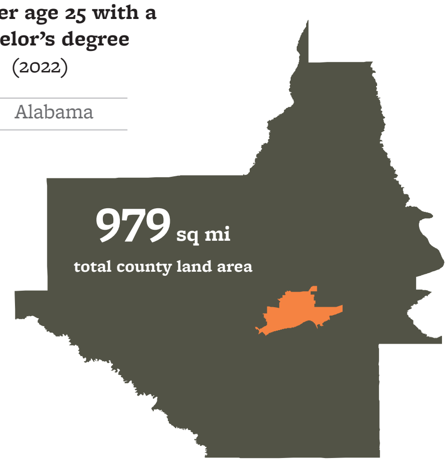
$91,600
median value of owner-occupied housing
(2022)
$179,400 Alabama

4.4%
unemployment rate
(July 2024)
2.9% Alabama

61.4%
residents are homeowners
(2022)
69.7% Alabama

15.7%
pop. over age 25 with a Bachelor's degree
(2022)
27.2% Alabama

27%
persons living below the poverty line
(2022)
15.7% Alabama



Social Vulnerability

Social vulnerability guides preparation for, and recover from, disasters, and prevent or mitigate adverse effects among socially vulnerable populations.

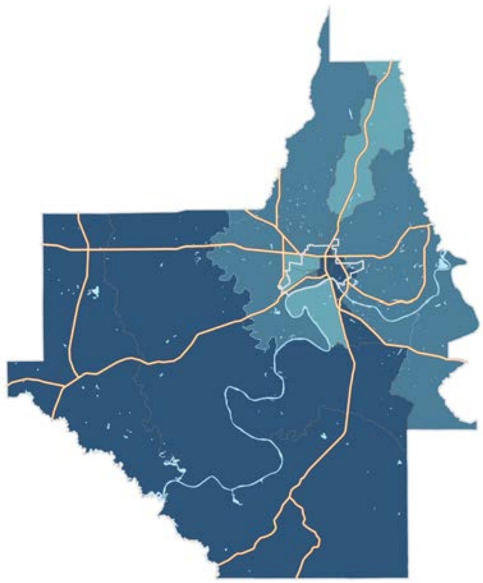
THE INDEX

Social Vulnerability refers to the demographic and socioeconomic factors (such as poverty, lack of access to transportation, and crowded housing) that adversely affect communities that encounter hazards and other community-level stressors. These stressors can include natural or human-caused disasters (such as tornadoes or chemical spills) or disease outbreaks (such as COVID-19).

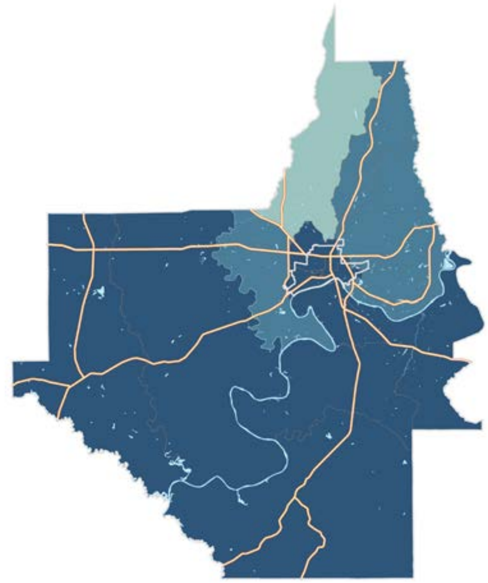
- The Social Vulnerability Index (SVI) is a place-based index, database, and mapping application designed to identify and quantify communities experiencing social vulnerability. The SVI helps public health officials and local planners better prepare for and respond to emergency events with the goal of decreasing human suffering, economic loss, and health inequities.
- The current CDC/ATSDR Social Vulnerability Index uses 16 U.S. census variables from the 5-year American Community Survey (ACS) to identify communities that may need support before, during, or after disasters. These variables are grouped into four themes that cover four major areas of social vulnerability and then combined into a single measure of overall social vulnerability.

THEMES	VARIABLES
SOCIOECONOMIC STATUS	Below 150% Poverty Unemployed Housing Cost Burden No High School Diploma No Health Insurance
HOUSEHOLD CHARACTERISTICS	Aged 65 & Older Aged 17 & Younger Civilian with a Disability Single-Parent Households English Language Proficiency
RACIAL & ETHNIC MINORITY STAUS	Hispanic or Latino (of any race) Black & African American American Indian & Alaska Native Asian Native Hawaiian & Pacific Islander Two or More Races Other Races
HOUSING TYPES & TRANSPORTATION	Multi-Unit Structures Mobile Homes Crowding No Vehicle Group Quarters

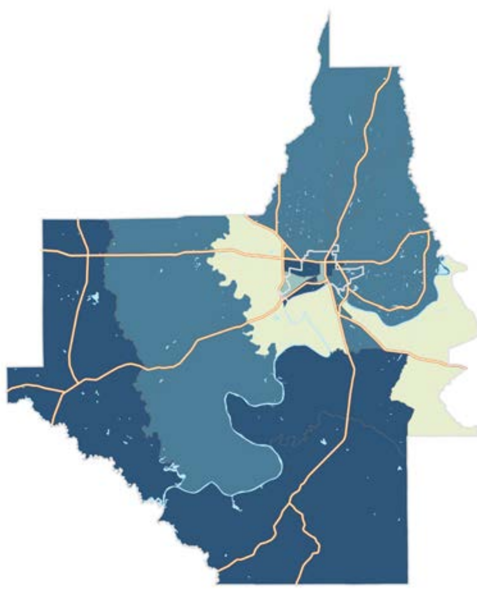
SOCIOECONOMIC STATUS



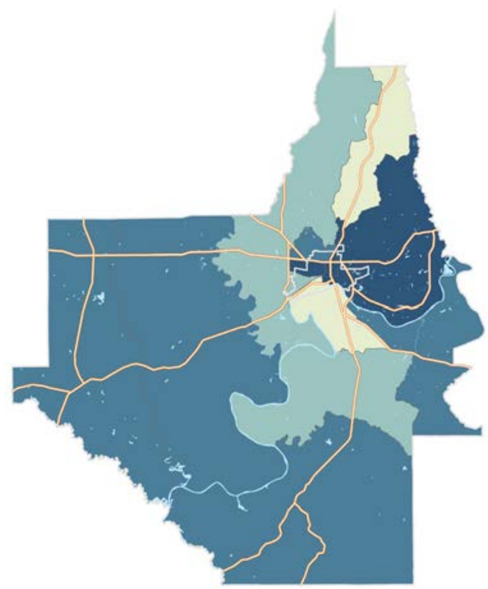
RACIAL & ETHNIC MINORITY STAUS



HOUSEHOLD CHARACTERISTICS



HOUSING TYPES & TRANSPORTATION

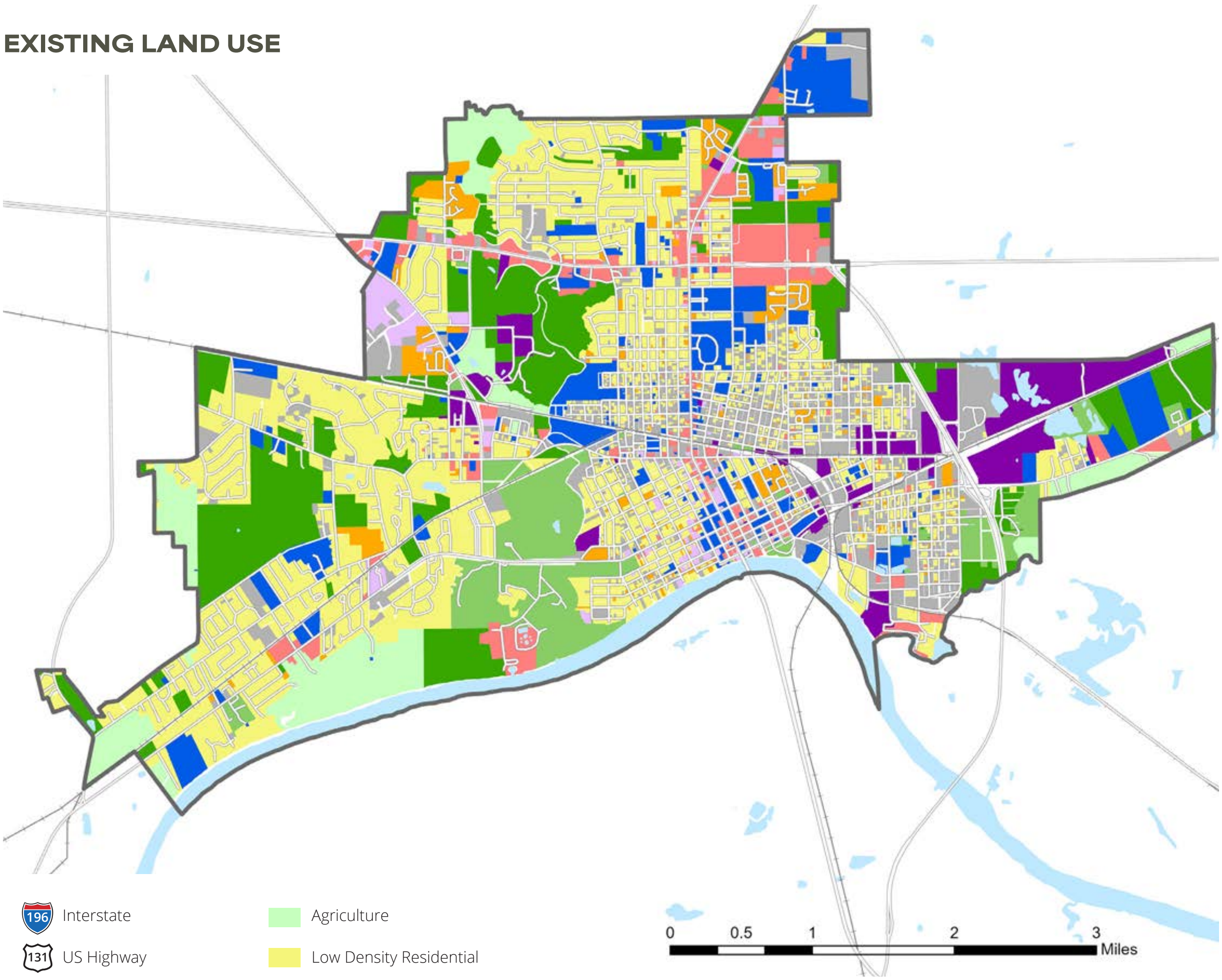


This page includes maps of the social vulnerability scores across four themes. These maps depict the overall percentile SVI rankings at the census tract level. Darker shades of blue indicate higher social vulnerability. The percentile ranking represents the proportion of tracts that are equal to or lower than a that tract in terms of social vulnerability. For example, ranking of 0.85 signifies that 85% of tracts in the state or nation are less vulnerable. Selma includes a tract within the top quartile across all themes.

Land Use

The land use section examines the City and County as a place to live, work, and play. This includes an assessment of the built and natural environment.

EXISTING LAND USE



LAND USES HIGHLIGHTS

27%
Low Density Residential

9%
Industrial

5%
Commercial

10%
Vacant

EXISTING LAND USES

Vacancy rates are high. Of the 2,658 parcels within the path of the tornado, 1,485 were either vacant (746 parcels) or had uninhabitable structures (739 parcels).

Downtown Selma has many underutilized buildings. The map to the right distinguishes between fully vacant and partially vacant buildings within the downtown core. The majority of buildings between the river and Selma Ave. along Broad Street are currently underutilized.

Roughly one third of Selma is low density residential. Most Selma neighborhoods are comprised of single family homes, while most multi-family has been built away from the core. Less than 20% of land is used for commercial and industrial purposes.

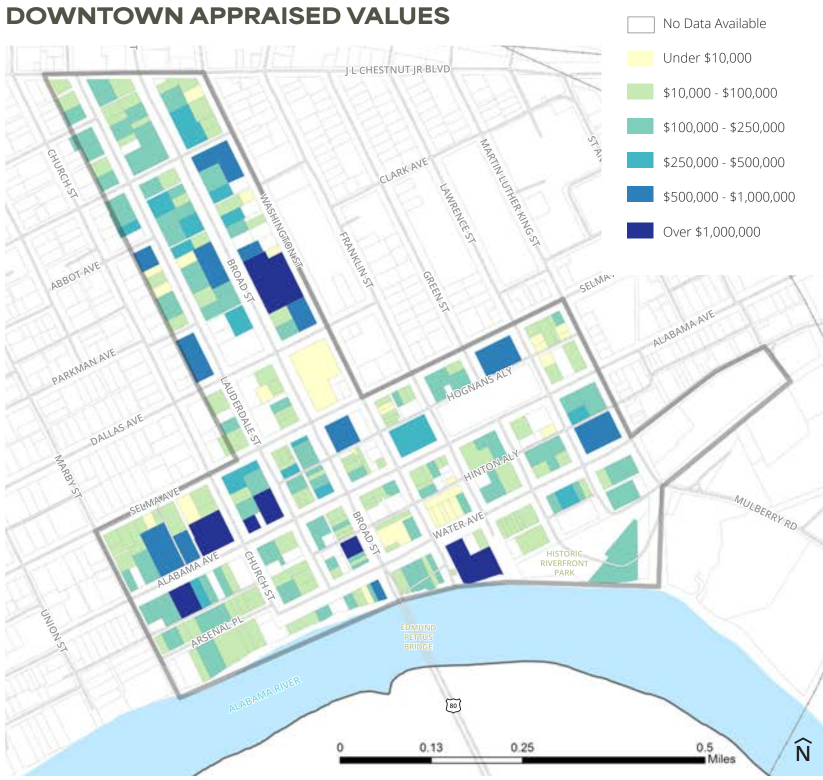
DOWNTOWN BUILDING CONDITIONS

DOWNTOWN

Downtown Selma has a unique collection of architectural styles. Downtown buildings represent various periods of the city's prosperity from antebellum to turn-of-the-century. Significant structures include the historic St. James Hotel, Bridge Tender's House, the Old Depot Museum, the Smitherman Building, the Federal Building, and a number of historic church buildings.

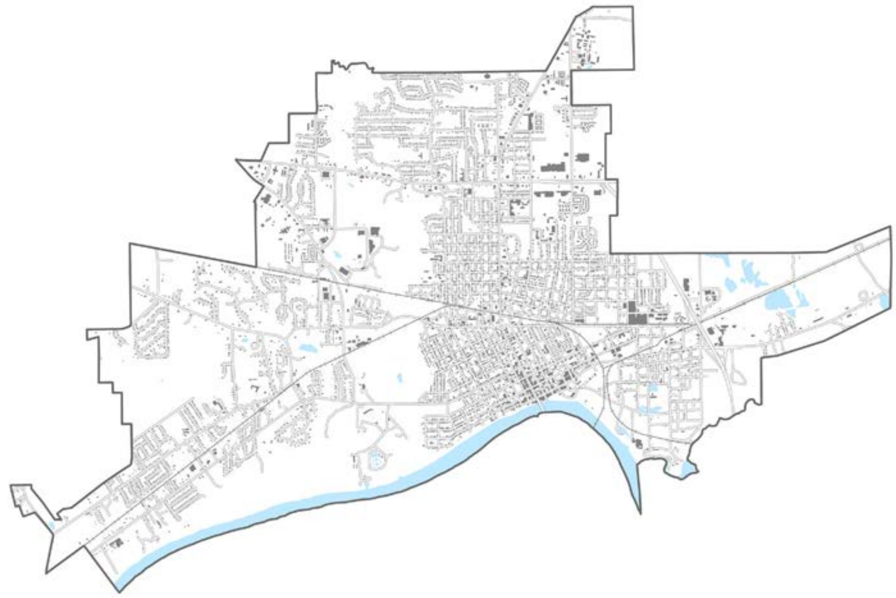
Resources for development are directly tied to real estate values. Many of the properties in downtown Selma are assessed at a low rate, making it difficult to induce development that will be profitable for builders and support more livable communities.

DOWNTOWN APPRAISED VALUES



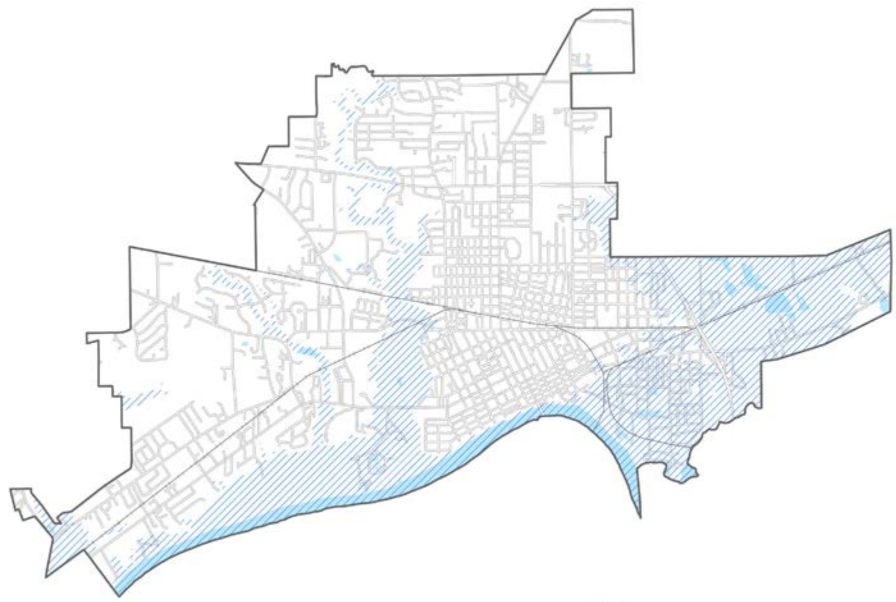
BUILT ENVIRONMENT

Development is concentrate downtown. This map shows the footprints of buildings withir the City of Selma. This diagram helps to illustrate the pattern of urban development and building blocks of the city. It also shows the relationship to open space ar the remaining land for potential development.



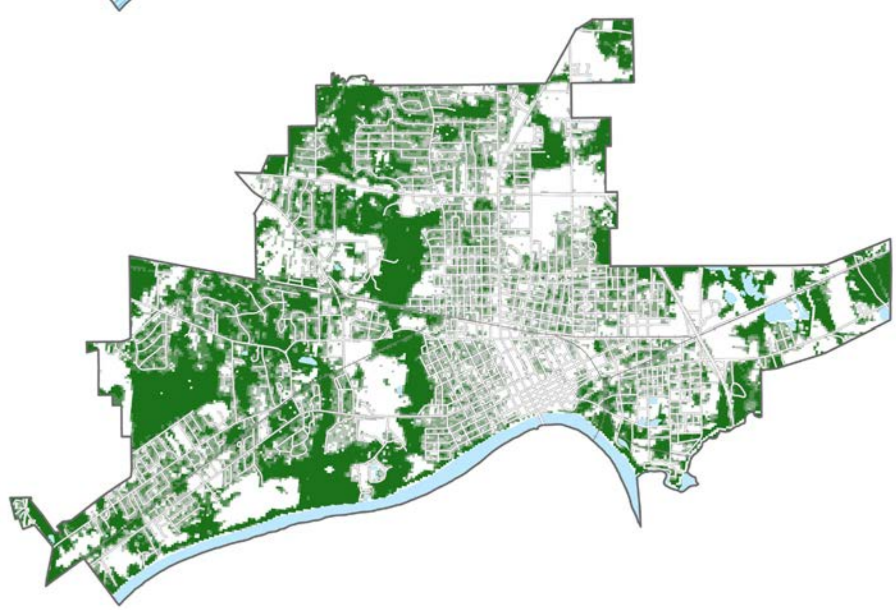
WATER

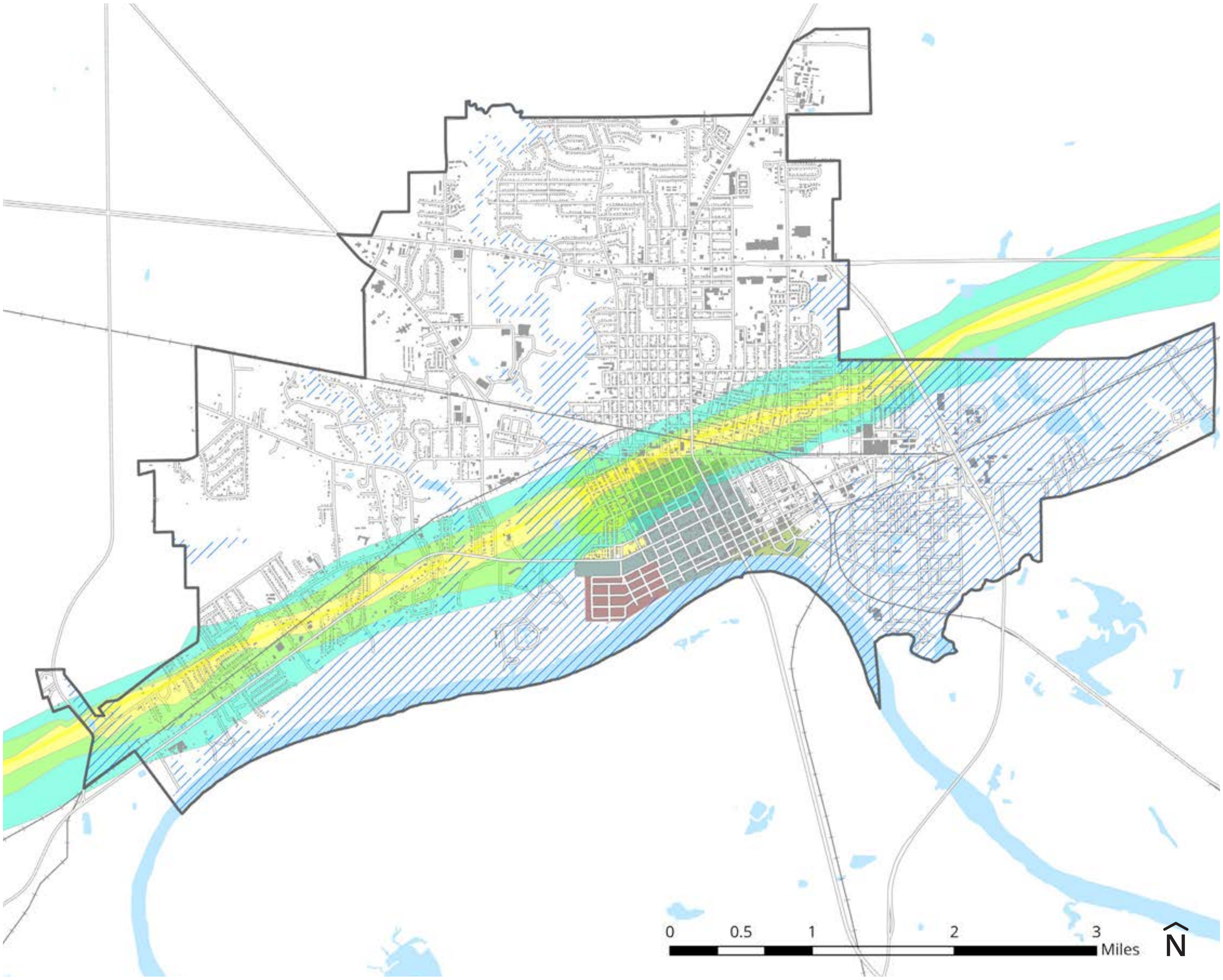
Most of East Selma is within the flood zone. This map shows Selma's overall flood risk based on FEMA flood maps. The hatched blue area includes "A" zones, which are high-risk flood areas, due to proximity to a pond, stream, or river. People that own a property in a high-risk zone and have a federally backed mortgage, are required to purchase flood insurance.



TREE CANOPY

Selma has limited tree cover within developed areas. This map shows the proportion of land surface covered by trees in 2021. Tree canopy is shown in green, while areas with no tree cover are gray. The data used to create this map is maintained by a consortium of federal agencies, called the Multi-Resolution Land Characteristics Consortium (MRLC).





DEVELOPMENT CONTRAINTS

Downtown Selma is comprised of multiple Historic Districts. Selma is home to four historic districts: Old Town, Icehouse, Riverview, and Water Avenue. Any proposed material changes in appearance to a designated historic property or a property within a historic district, including new construction, alterations, or demolition, must first be reviewed and approved by the Selma Historic Development Commission. The commission determines whether the proposed changes will be appropriate or inappropriate for the historic property or district based on the established Design Guidelines.

Thirty percent of the city falls within the flood zone. Flood risk varies by property location and building characteristics, such as material, foundation or basement design, and elevation above ground.

The January 2023 tornado cut a clear path across the city. The tornado began just east of Orrville near the intersection of Hwy 22 and Cahaba Rd. As it moved northeast, it intensified as the damage path was nearly parallel with Hwy 22. The tornado continued further north and east, it entered the northern sections of downtown Selma before crossing Hwy 14, east of Selma, and Parkway Drive.

Housing

The housing section examines the conditions of neighborhoods and their ability to serve current and new residents.

NEIGHBORHOODS

Condition rates decline in aging housing stock. Condition of housing is rated on a scale of 0 to 100. The median condition rating is 58. The average residential fair market value is $83,529. This includes single family, town homes, duplex, triplex, apartment buildings, and condominium units.

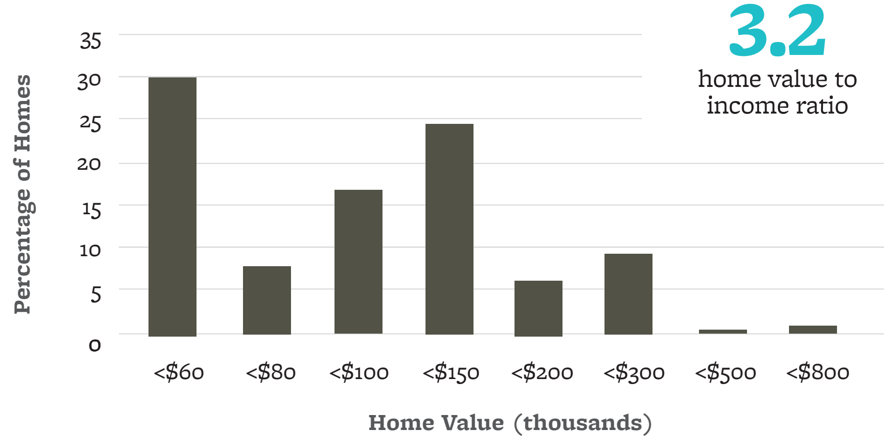
The housing stock is aging. Approximately 15% of the housing in Selma was built before 1940 and 42.4% was built between 1940 and 1969. Only 6.1% of housing units have been built since 2000 and the rate of building for all structure types has steadily declined since 1960. As a result, 84% of Selma's housing stock is more than 50 years old.

Most of Selma's housing is single family. The predominant housing type is single family homes. Only one third of the housing units available in Selma are in multi-family structures, while mobile home units account for the final 1%.

Home values are low. Approximately 30% of home in Selma are valued at $60,000 or less. The Housing Affordability Index has a base of 100, representing an area where the median income is sufficient to qualify for a loan on a home valued at the median home price and not be cost burdened. Values over 100 indicate increasing affordability. The HAI in Selma is 135, although residents may face other barriers to homeownership.

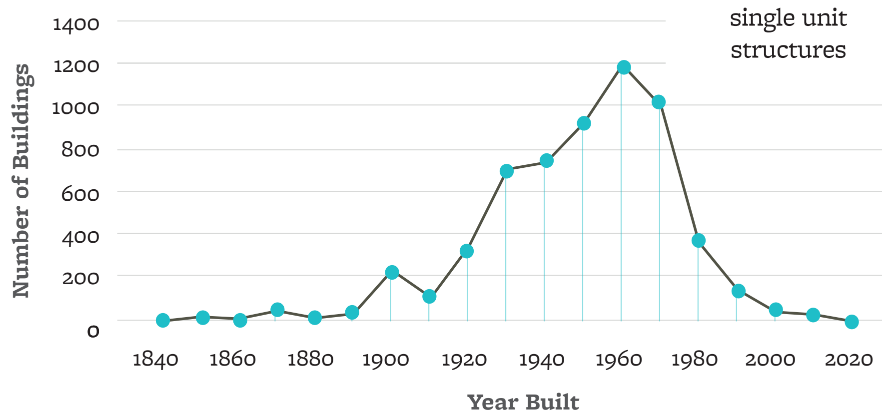
DISTRIBUTION OF HOME VALUES

3.2
home value to income ratio

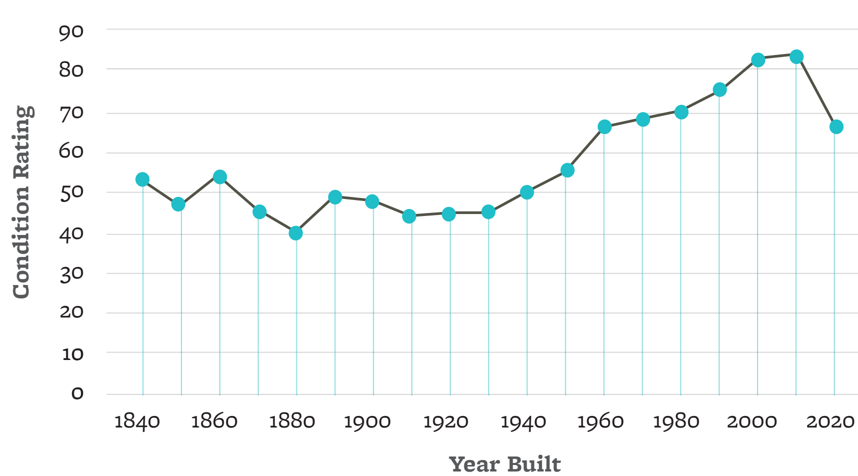


NUMBER OF BUILDINGS BY DECADE BUILT

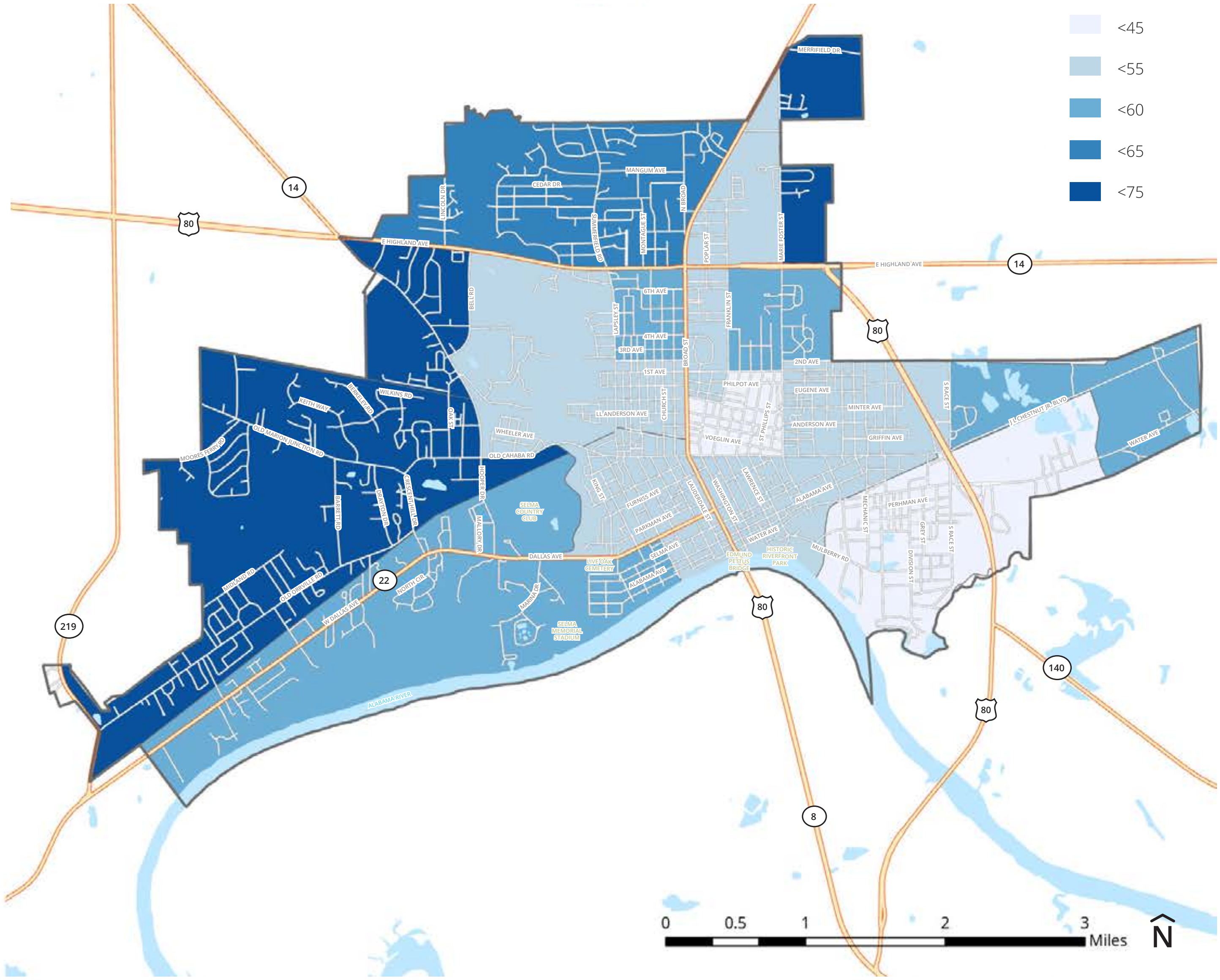
66%
single unit structures



AVERAGE BUILDING CONDITION BY DECADE BUILT

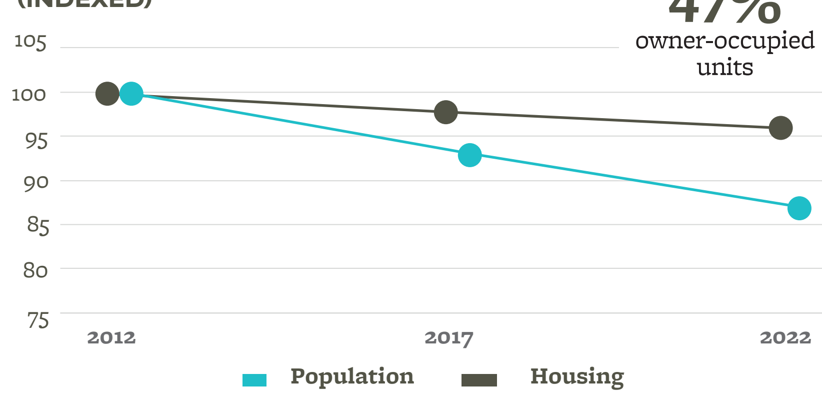


RESIDENTIAL CONDITION BY BLOCK GROUP



Selma lacks sufficient quality housing. Between 2012 and 2022, the total number of housing units decreased -3.7%, while the population decreased 13.1%. The resulting surplus of housing is depressing property values and increasing vacancy, abandonment, and a general decline in the quality of housing stock.

HOUSING SUPPLY AND POPULATION (INDEXED)



HOMEOWNERS

Homeownership rates trend with age. Residents under the age of 24 are the most likely to rent their home (97%), while people over 75 are the most likely to own (91%). This is consistent with national trends.

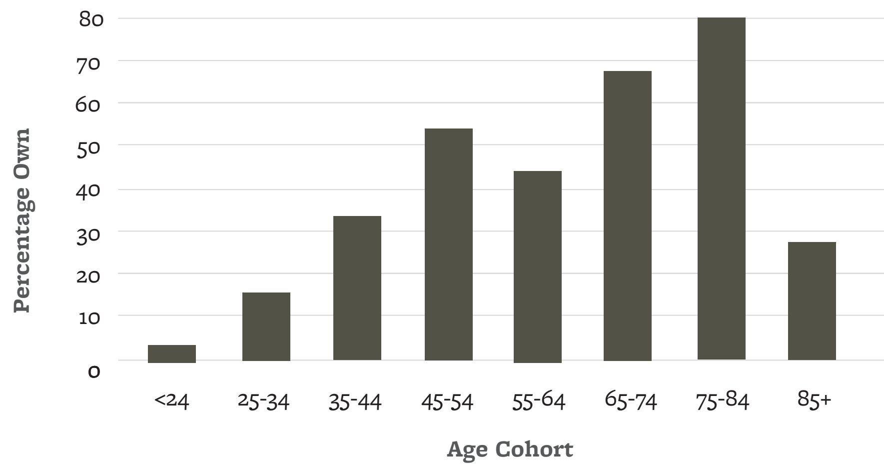
Half of all homeowners claim a homestead tax exemption. Approximately 1,200 property owners claim the H3 exemption, which is available to owners 65 and older with a combined taxable income of $12,000 or less. This exemption also applies for owners who are retired due to permanent and total disability (unable to work).

RENTERS

Half of all renters in Selma are moderately or severely cost burdened. A moderately cost burdened household spends 30-49.9% of their household income on rent and utilities. A severely cost burdened household spends 50% or more. Renter households with incomes <$20,000 had the highest incidence of cost burden in 2022.

Federally subsidized units represent 39% of all rental housing in Selma. Not included in this inventory are approximately 399 Housing Choice Vouchers, the majority of which are tenant-based (assigned to individuals who may use them in rental housing of their choosing) and a portion of which may be project-based (tied to specific units).

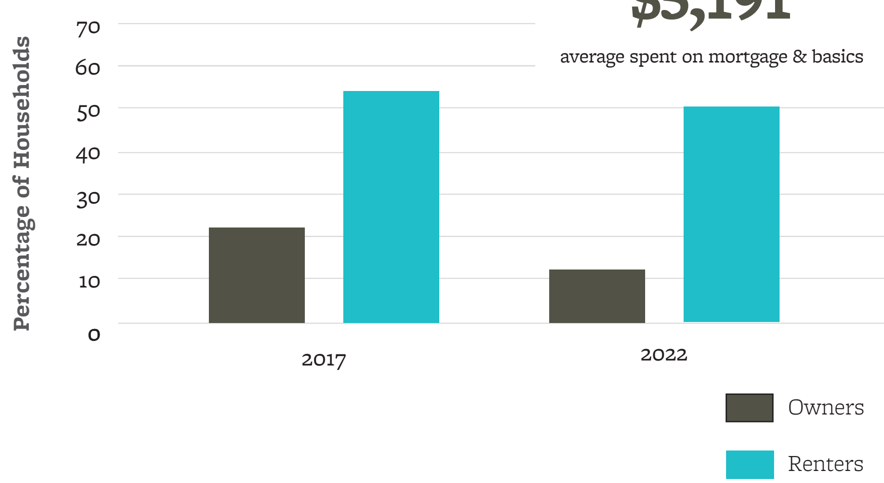
HOMEOWNERSHIP RATE BY AGE



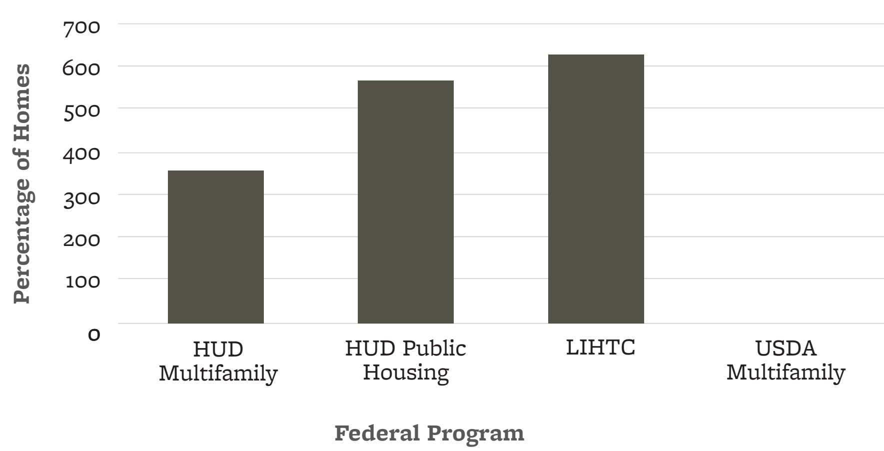
COST BURDENED HOUSEHOLDS

$5,191

average spent on mortgage & basics



FEDERALLY SUBSIDIZED HOUSING UNITS



Economic Development

The economic development section examines the health and diversity of the local economy along with prosperity of individuals and families.

ECONOMY & EMPLOYMENT

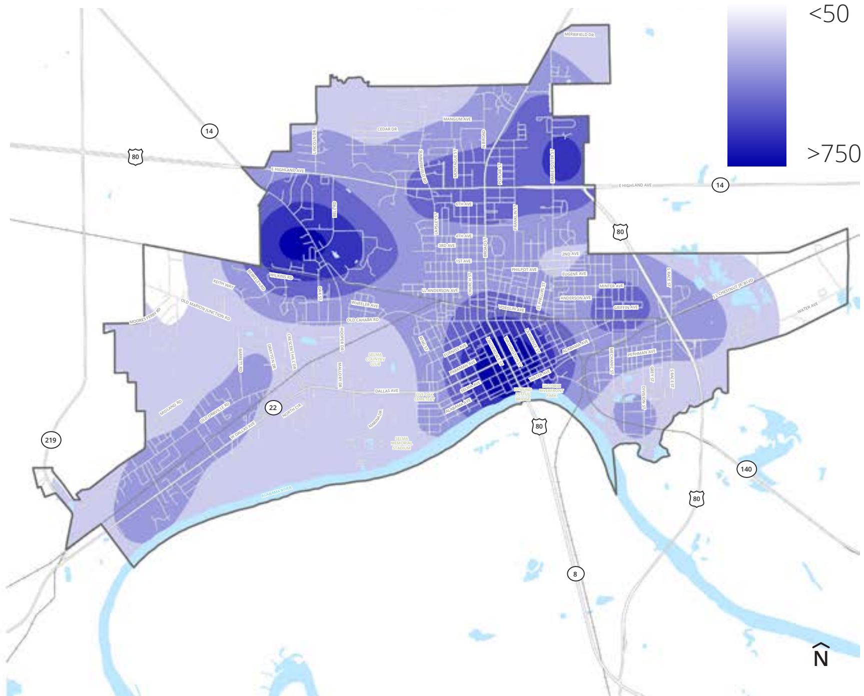
Manufacturing is the largest employment sector. The most common employment sectors for residents of Selma are Manufacturing (20%), Educational Services (13%), and Health Care & Social Assistance (13%).

PERSONAL PROSPERITY

Unemployment is increasing. The economy of Selma employs 6,200 people. From 2021 to 2022, employment in Selma declined 3.7%.

Median earnings favor male workers. The median earnings by men in Selma were approximately $1,000 more than women in 2022. However, the wage gap varies greatly by industry.

NUMBER OF JOBS PER SQUARE MILE



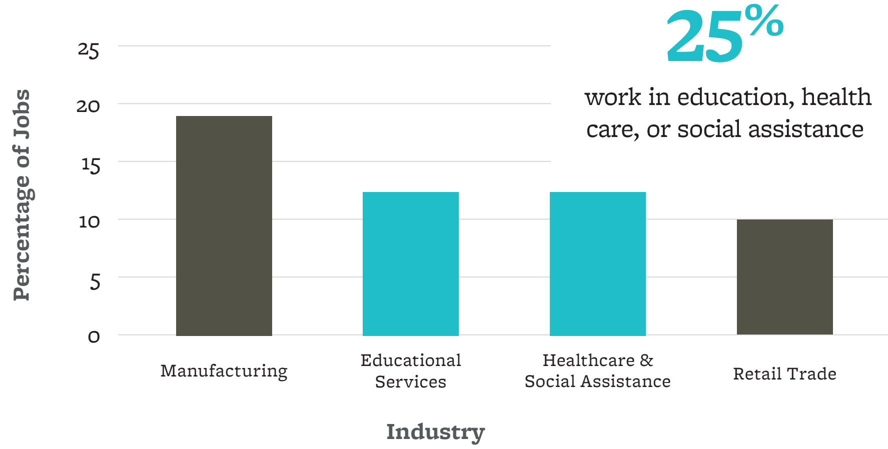
5,200
private primary jobs

48%
commute < 10 miles

ECONOMY & EMPLOYMENT

Manufacturing is the largest employment sector. The most common employment sectors for residents of Selma are Manufacturing (20%), Educational Services (13%), and Health Care & Social Assistance (13%). Combined, the latter two industries account for 25% of employment in Selma. Similar employment trends are reflected in Dallas County.

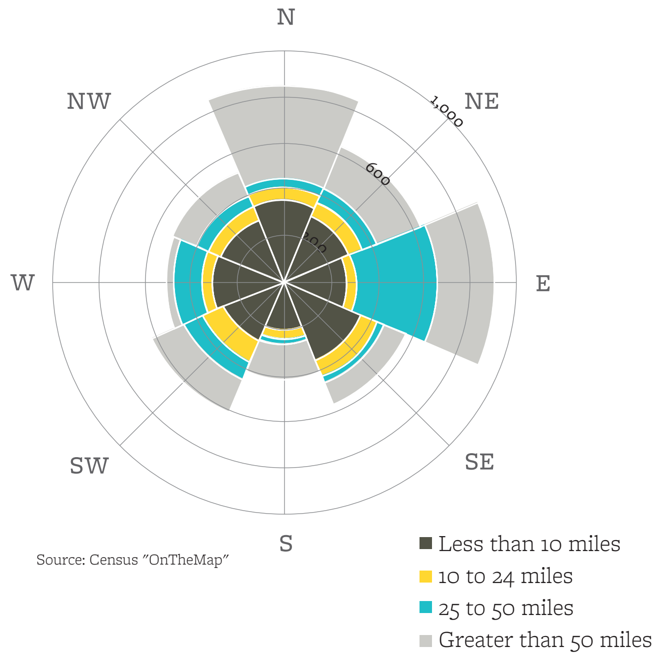
TOP EMPLOYMENT SECTORS



25%
work in education, health care, or social assistance

JOBS AND COMMUTING

Almost 50% of Selma workers commute less than 10 miles to work. The second largest share of workers commute more than 50 miles (28%). Other than Selma, the most common location for residents to work is Montgomery.



WHERE WORKERS ARE EMPLOYED (2021)

Work Location	Share
Selma	34.8%
Montgomery	8.4%
Birmingham	3.8%
Tuscaloosa	3%
Hoover	2.3%

WHERE WORKERS LIVE (2021)

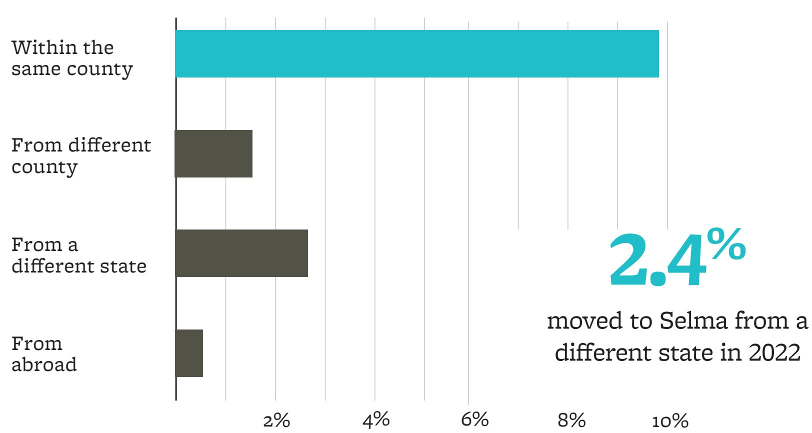
Home Location	Share
Selma	27%
Valley Grande	7.2%
Montgomery	3.9%
Selmont	2.6%
Prattville	1.8%

RESIDENTIAL MOBILITY

Residential mobility refers to the movement of people within and across boundaries, such as county or state lines.

Less than two percent of people in Selma moved from a different Alabama county in 2021. The largest share of people who moved to Selma in 2021, relocated from another location within Dallas County. Based on the population at that time, this accounts for approximately 280 people.

RESIDENTIAL MOBILITY



INCOME

Selma residents earn less than the median state income. In 2022, Selma had a median household income of $31,084. The state median income during the same year was $59,609. Just over 13% of households have an income less than $10,000. In comparison, Dallas County has a larger share of high income earners.

The wealth index is low. Wealth index is widely used as a proxy for a household's socioeconomic position and living standard. THe index is complied from several indicators of affluence, including average household income and average net worth. The index represents the wealth of the area relative to the national level. Values exceeding 100 represent above-average wealth.

25%

households earn <$15,000

Largest Group

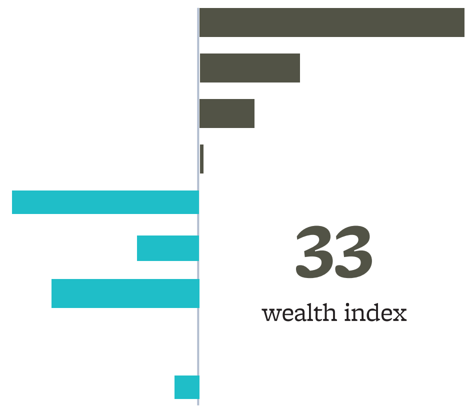
0.8%

households earn >$200,000

Smallest Group

2023 HOUSEHOLDS BY INCOME (COMPARED TO DALLAS COUNTY)

Income	Selma	Difference
<$15,000	25.1%	+4.9%
<$25,000	18.7%	+1.6%
<$35,000	13.4%	+0.9%
>$50,000	12.2%	+0.1%
<$75,000	12.7%	-3.0%
<100,000	6.7%	-1.0%
>$150,000	7.7%	-2.4%
<$200,000	2.7%	0
$200,000+	0.8%	-0.4%



33

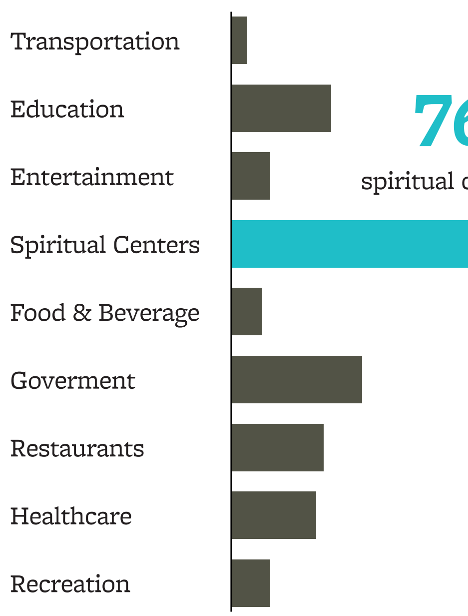
wealth index

MARKET ASSESSMENT

Disposable income is lower than Alabama. The average disposable income for residents in Selma is $24,762, lower than the state, which has a value of $63,591. This is also reflected in the Wealth Index, which is complied from several indicators of affluence, including average household income and average net worth. The index represents the wealth of the area relative to the national level. Values exceeding 100 represent above-average wealth.

Places of worship play a significant role in civic life. There are 76 spiritual centers within the City of Selma, which account for more than 30% of all documented points of interest in the chart to the right.

COMMUNITY ASSETS



76

spiritual centers

Infrastructure

The infrastructure section examines the basic physical structures and facilities that support the necessary functions of the city.

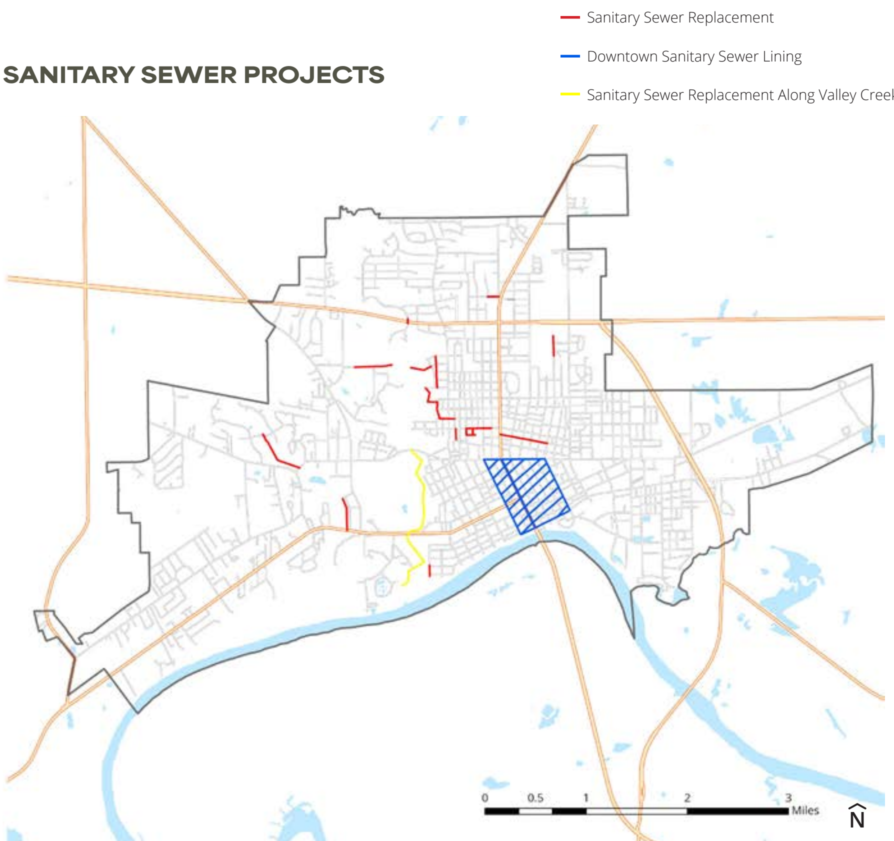
PARKS AND SCHOOLS

School facilities are positioned to be better utilized. Alabama state code permits school districts to enter into Joint Use Agreements, which would encourage use of these facilities by the broader community.

BROADBAND

Broadband coverage is inadequate. Dallas County has 30% of households unserved by broadband. **The County leads Alabama and the national average for percentage of eligible households that participate in the federal Affordable Connectivity Program's $30/month subsidy.**

SANITARY SEWER PROJECTS

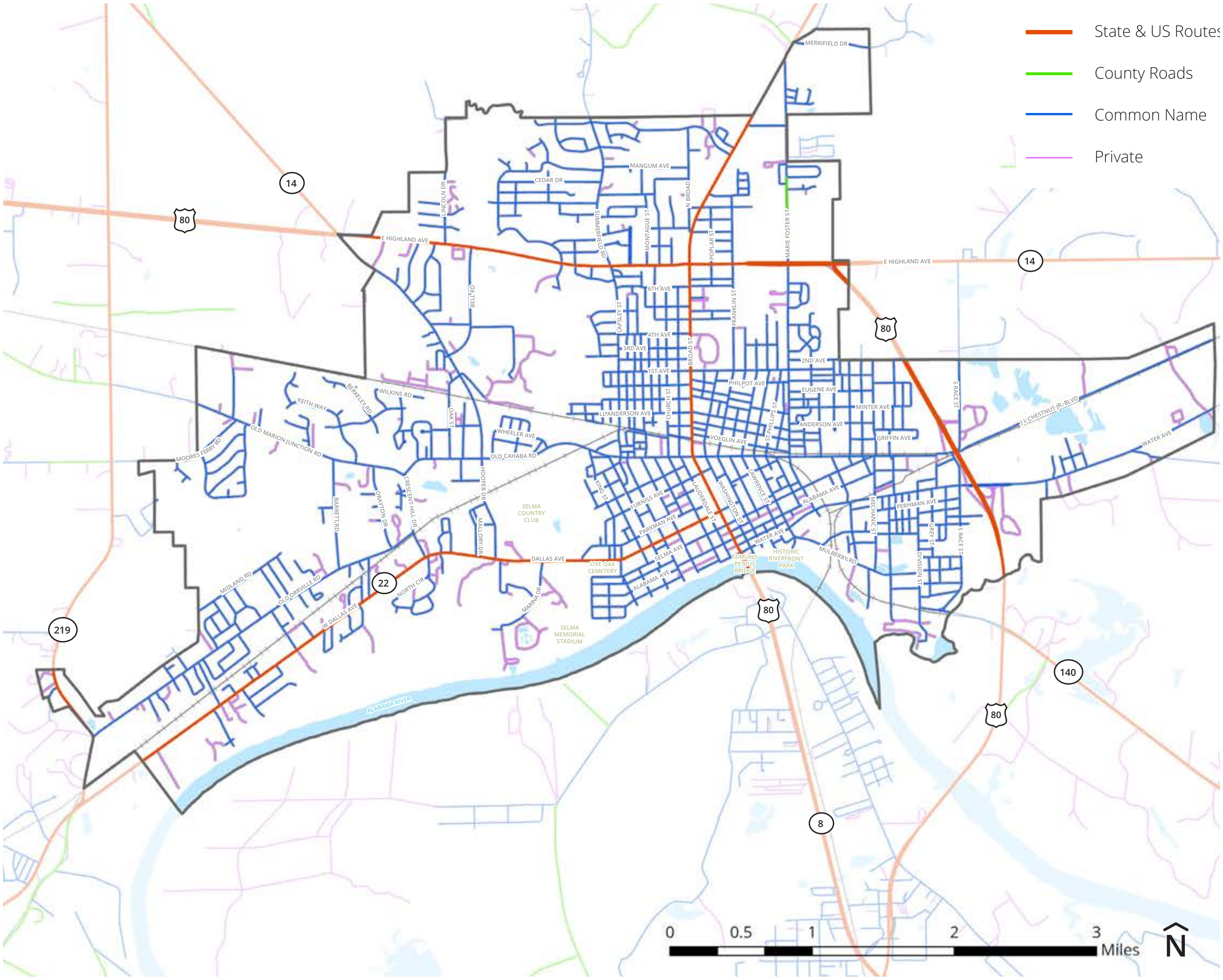


WATER AND SEWER

There are significant challenges in maintaining aging infrastructure. Most of the pipes in the northern and western portions of the City were installed between World War II and the mid-70's. These pipes were typically clay and constructed in short lengths.

- Many of the system's components are over 100 years old and have begun to wither due to natural degradation, especially in/around the oldest parts of the city.
- Additionally, system maintenance has not been adequate, leading to restrictions or complete blockages of flow in some system inlets.
- There are multiple negatively sloped pipes present which not only restrict flow but allow the settling of silt, further decreasing performance.
- Many of the storm sewer mains servicing the city are buried beneath main roadways and intersections, making thorough evaluation and maintenance extremely difficult and expensive. These difficult construction characteristics and associated costs are a limiting factor in what work can be performed to improve the system.
- The City of Selma was awarded funding from a Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) Loan administered by the Alabama Department of Environmental Management to make improvements and repairs to parts of the existing sanitary sewer infrastructure that is currently in a "seriously deteriorated" condition.

EXISTING ROUTE TYPES



TRANSPORTATION

Many active transportation challenges occur on state owned roadways. Control over improvements on Alabama DOT facilities is not within the control of the City of Selma or Dallas County.

Downtown is a focal point for the community and tourists. Curb extensions, detectable warning surfaces and curb ramps were noted at a majority of key intersections, especially where ALDOT streets have been recently improved.

Connecting Selma: An Active Transportation Action Plan was drafted by ALProHealth in partnership with Alta. The draft plan includes important foundational direction, including:

- An overview of the most recent walking, biking, and health related demographic data.
- An analysis of the current conditions and needs for walking and biking infrastructure.
- Recommendations for temporary infrastructure projects that can use CDC funding.
- Long-term recommendations for the growth of Selma's walking and biking network.
- Guidance on engagement and coordination with community partners.

Implementation

The implementation section examines the capacity of the City and County to implement a strategic action plan for long-term recovery.

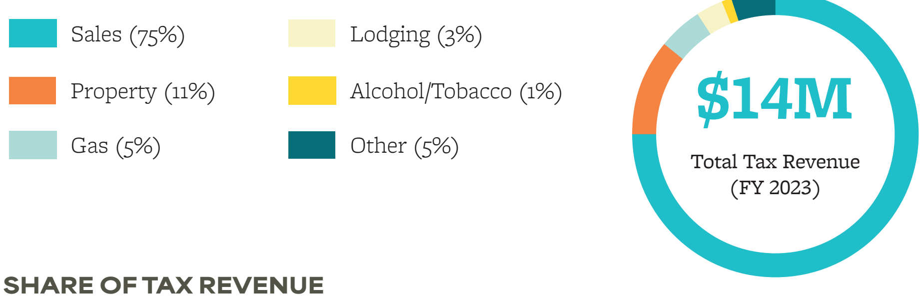
BUDGETING

Selma heavily relies on sales tax revenue. Sales and use taxes dominate Selma's revenue (73%) – typical for Alabama cities. Property taxes are the second largest source. These taxes are based on the assessed value of properties within the city limits. The landfill also generates an additional $1.1m in net revenue. Property taxes are declining in their contribution rate to the city's revenue base and may signal declining wealth within the community

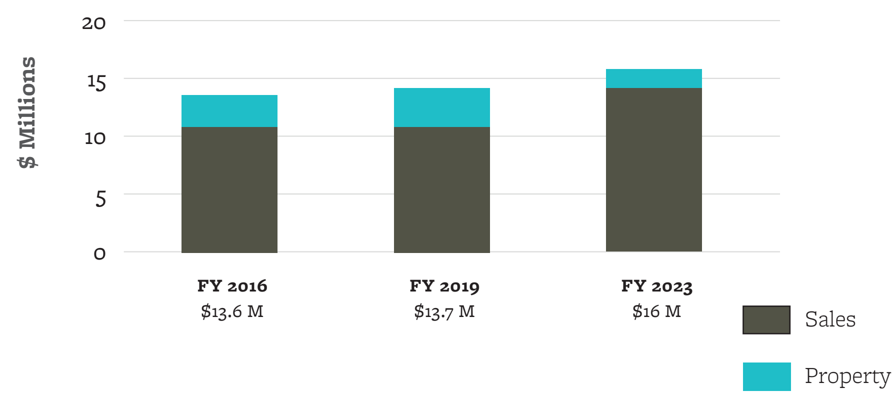
Selma adopts a budget with a two year outlook. The adopted budget lays out a financial plan to balance appropriations and estimated revenues for each of the next two years. The city's fiscal policy each year is to maintain budget reserves to deal with uncertainties in the local economy, while still carrying out high quality services for Selma residents.

The Dallas County Commission Office provides accounting and financial management for the County. The Office is responsible for preparation and management of annual county budget, management of cash and investments, fixed assets, debt, grants, and procurement of goods and services for the County.

SOURCES OF TAX REVENUE



SHARE OF TAX REVENUE



RECOVERY PARTNERS

Disaster Recovery. Federal partners were brought in to support Selma in navigating funding resources. Collaborative efforts began to identify, prepare, and submit responses to federal grant applications. These partners include:

- FEMA
- Selma Housing Authority
- NACA
- Hope Credit Union
- Foot Soldiers Park
- Center on Rural Innovation
- Alabama Power
- A.T.A.P. Community Development Corporation
- Partnership for Equitable and Resilient Communities (PERC)
- Melville Charitable Trust
- AU Front Porch Initiative
- Delta Design Build

FEMA Recovery Playbook. The purpose of the Recovery Playbook for Selma, Alabama is to provide the city officials basic guidelines for addressing recovery for the areas of Housing, Economic Redevelopment, and Infrastructure. This will be used as a starting point for Selma Now.

TOOLS

Selma Now will be a policy foundation for the City and County's overall vision and direction for recovery. It will be implemented through various specific actions, policies, and programs, using these tools and others.

- **Comprehensive Plan.** The Planning Commission is mandated by The Code of Alabama to prepare and maintain a master plan for the physical development of Selma. The current Comprehensive Plan was adopted in 2009 and recommends that that document be adapted and updated as needed.
- **Capital Improvements Plan.** The 2009 Comprehensive Plan recommended adopting a Community Facilities and Capital Improvements Plan. No plan is currently in place.
- **Zoning Code.** The zoning ordinance was enacted on May 28, 1951. A series of amending ordinances have been incorporated, but no significant rewrite has been undertaken in nearly 75 years.
- **Budget.** The budget supports the policy direction and general objectives of the city. Growing the revenue base is critical for Selma's ability to invest in itself.

Stakeholders

Local Residents. Attend and participate in public meetings where decisions are being made.

Recovery Partners. Directly enable recovery efforts through financing, design, construction, and programmatic leadership.

Local Business & Non-profits.

- Work as advocates for policies and programs that align with their mission.
- Donate services, goods, money or time to planning efforts or projects as they are implemented.

Decision Makers

City & County Officials.

- Allocate funding for projects based on Plan priorities and community needs.
- Implement the policies set forth in the Plan.
- Support the community's future planning efforts with financing.

City & County Staff.

- Budget for and allocate resources to recommended projects.
- Educate the public and City officials on the Plan and its implications.
- Implement the policies set forth in the Plan.
- Support future planning efforts with expertise, time and services.