F. POPULATION PROJECTIONS

The U.S. Census Bureau and ESRI estimate the current population in the North Desert Region to be 460,963. The North Desert's population is primarily concentrated in the Victor Valley and Barstow areas. Other populated communities include Helendale, Oak Hills, and Phelan Piñon Hills. Outside of these areas, the population is relatively sparse. In general, the North Desert is comprised of relatively small communities with low population densities.

Table 3-14, below, shows the total population of the North Desert Region, broken down by fire service providers. The five agencies responsible for the largest populations in the North Desert include San Bernardino County Fire Protection District, City of Victorville, Apple Valley Fire Protection District, City of Adelanto and the Barstow Fire Protection District.

Table 3-14:
Current Population Estimates by North Desert Region Fire Service Providers

Fire Agency	Population, 2018	Population, Percent
Apple Valley FPD	81,866	17.6%
Baker CSD	774	0.2%
Barstow FPD	31,933	6.9%
City of Adelanto	35,055	7.5%
City of Victorville	126,259	27.2%
Daggett CSD	486	0.1%
Newberry CSD	2,258	0.5%
SB County FPD	184,214	39.7%
Yermo CSD	1,651	0.4%
TOTAL	**464,496**	**40.0%**

Source: ESRI Community Analyst, U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2010 Summary File 1. ESRI estimates for 2018 ESRI converted Census 2000 data into 2010 geography.

The analysis projects an annual growth rate of 1.6 percent between 2012 and 2040. Figure 3-31 and Figure 3-32 show the 2012 and 2040 population projection based on Transportation Analysis Zones data.

As the figures illustrate, over the next 28 years, the North Desert Region will see mild density increases for the areas served by the following agencies: the Cities of Adelanto, and Victorville, and the Apple Valley Fire Protection District. San Bernardino County, in general, is anticipated to see more population growth in the near term than the coastal regions of Southern California. The high cost of housing in the coastal counties of Los Angeles, Orange and San Diego has made the Inland Empire a destination of choice for many residents willing to commute to those areas.

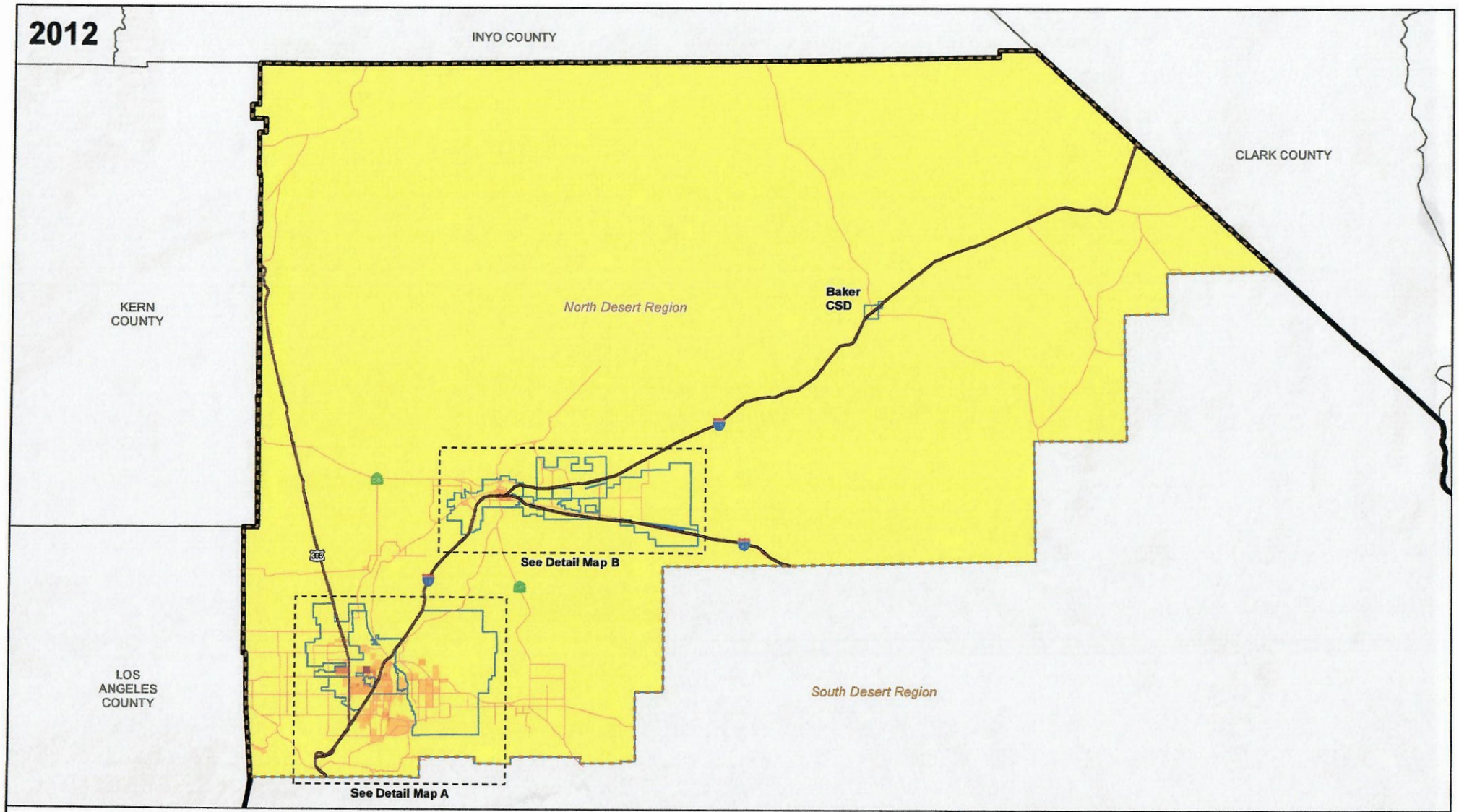


Figure 3-31: North Desert Region 2012 Population Density Comparison

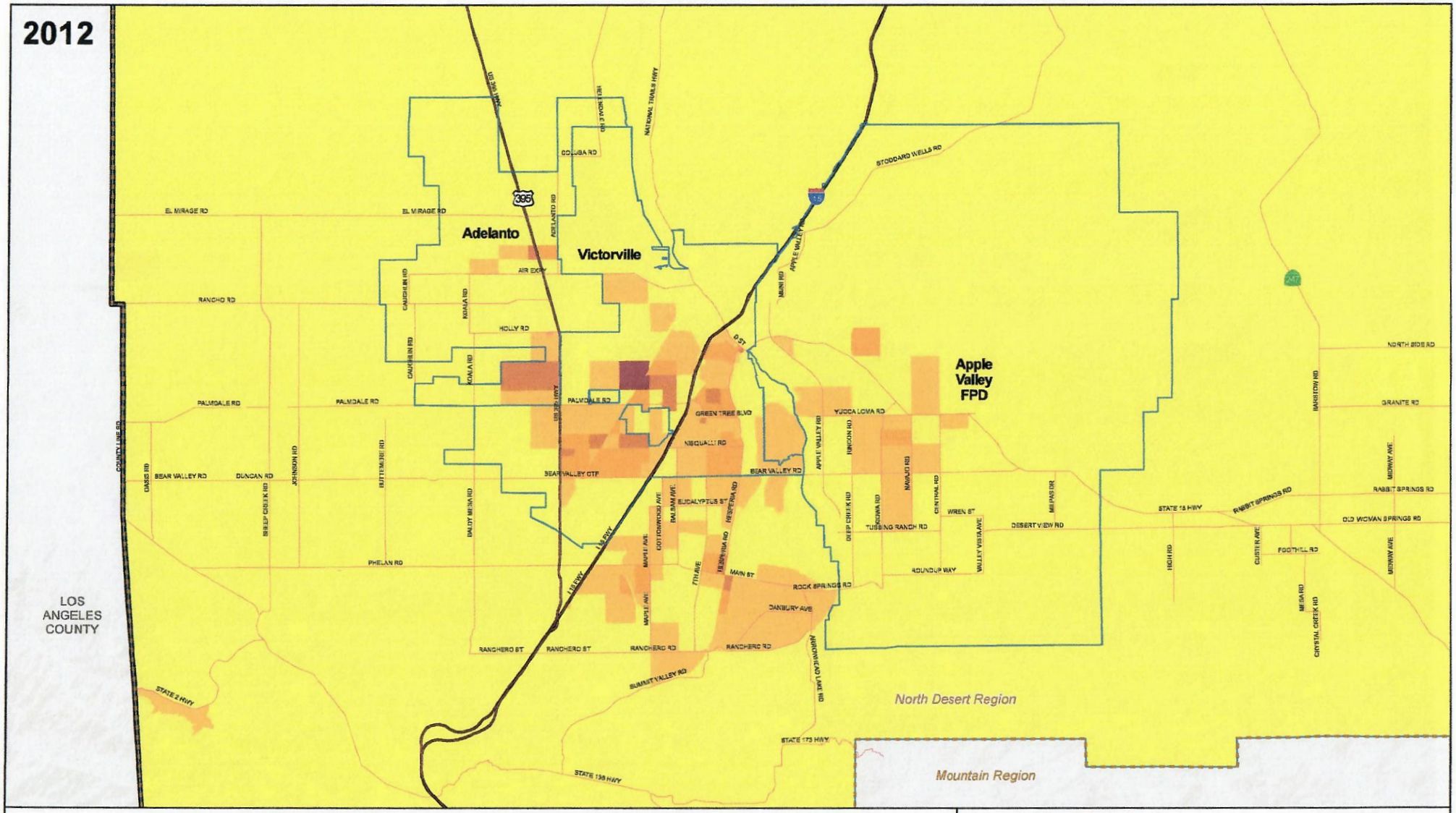


Figure 3-31: North Desert Region 2012 Population Density Comparison Detail Map A

Figure 3-31: North Desert Region 2012 Population Density Comparison Detail Map B

Disclaimer: The information shown is intended to be used for general display only and is not to be used as an official map.

Data Source: TAZ

Author: Jeffrey Lum Map Created 11/19/2019

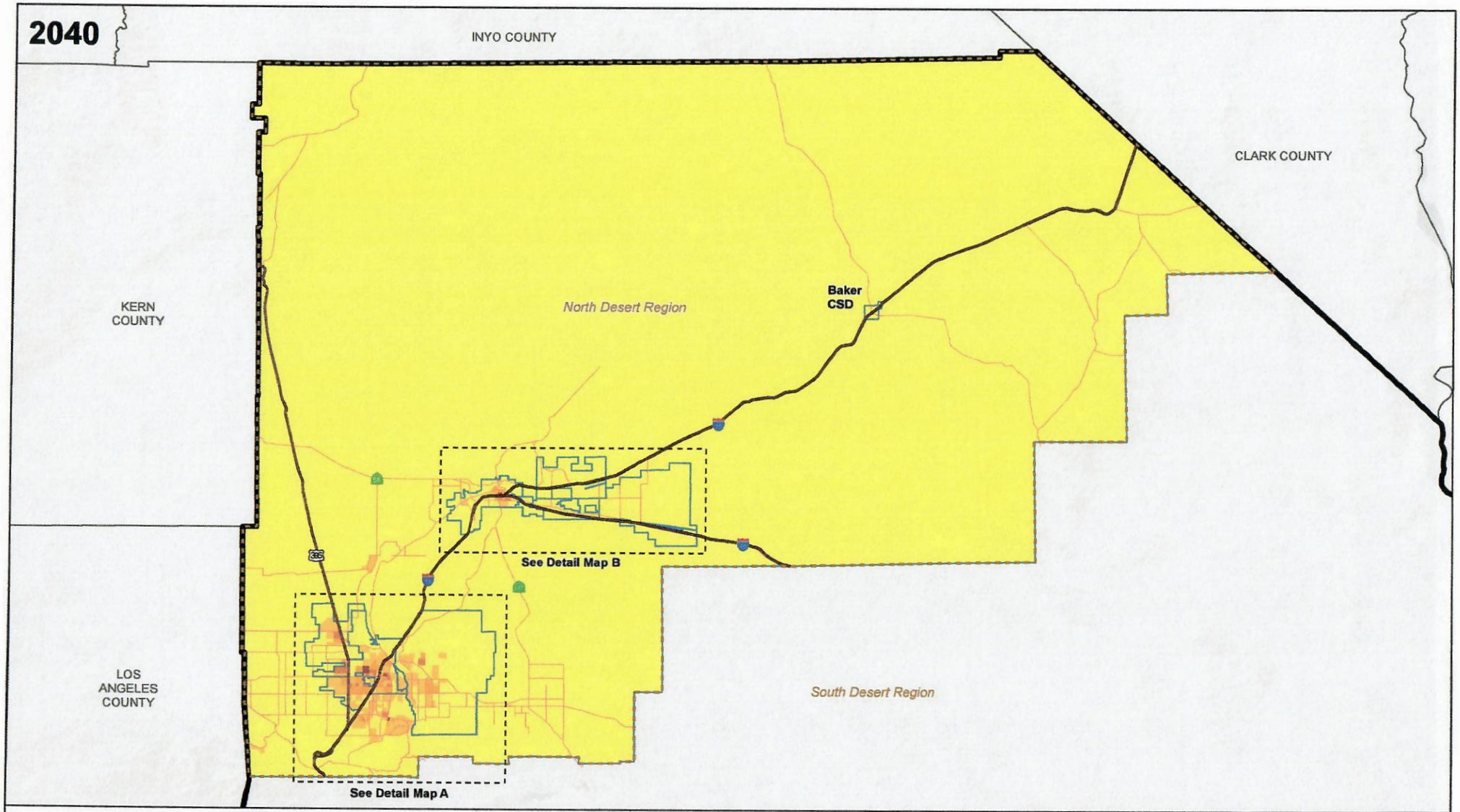
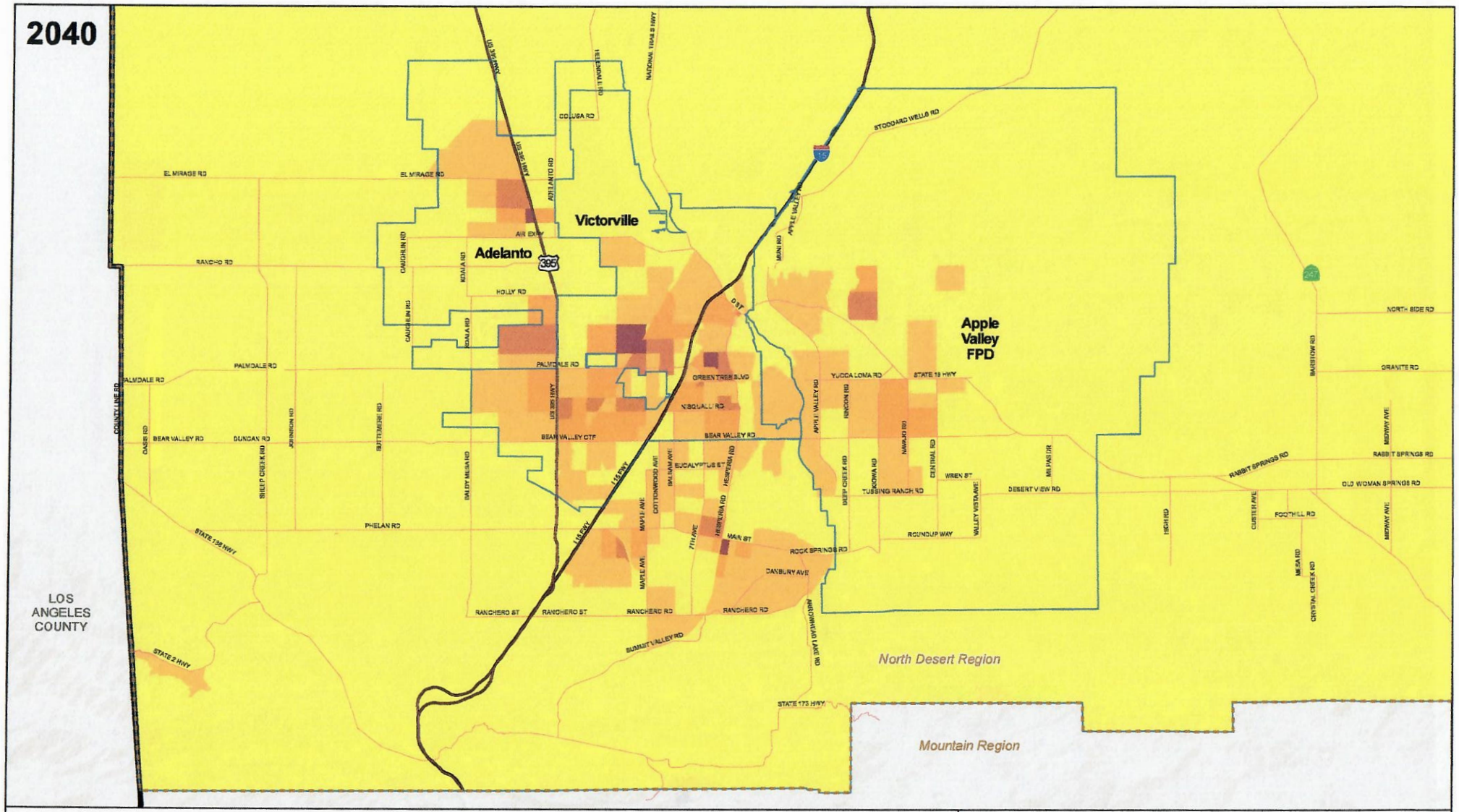


Figure 3-32: North Desert Region 2040 Population Density Comparison


2040
Victorville
Adelanto
Apple Valley FPD
LOS ANGELES COUNTY
North Desert Region
Mountain Region
EL MIRAGE RD
COLUSA RD
STODDARD WELLS RD
RANCHO RD
HOLLY RD
PALMDALE RD
GREEN TREE BLVD
YUCCA LOMA RD
STATE 18 HWY
NORTH SIDE RD
GRANITE RD
BEAR VALLEY RD
BEAR VALLEY CTF
TUSSING RANCH RD
DESERT VIEW RD
RABBIT SPRINGS RD
OLD WOMAN SPRINGS RD
PHELAN RD
ROUNDUP WAY
ROCK SPRINGS RD
DANBURY AVE
RANCHERO RD
SUMMIT VALLEY RD
STATE 173 HWY
STATE 138 HWY
STATE 2 HWY
Figure 3-32: North Desert Region 2040 Population Density Comparison Detail Map A
Disclaimer: The information shown is intended to be used for general display only and is not to be used as an official map.
Data Source: TAZ
0 2.25 4.5 9 Miles
N
2040 Population Density
Population/sqmi
0 - 2,000
2,001 - 4,000
4,001 - 6,000
6,001 - 8,000
8,001 or above
Fire Protection Service Providers
North Desert Region
San Bernardino County Line
Author: Jeffrey Lum
Map Created: 1/6/2020

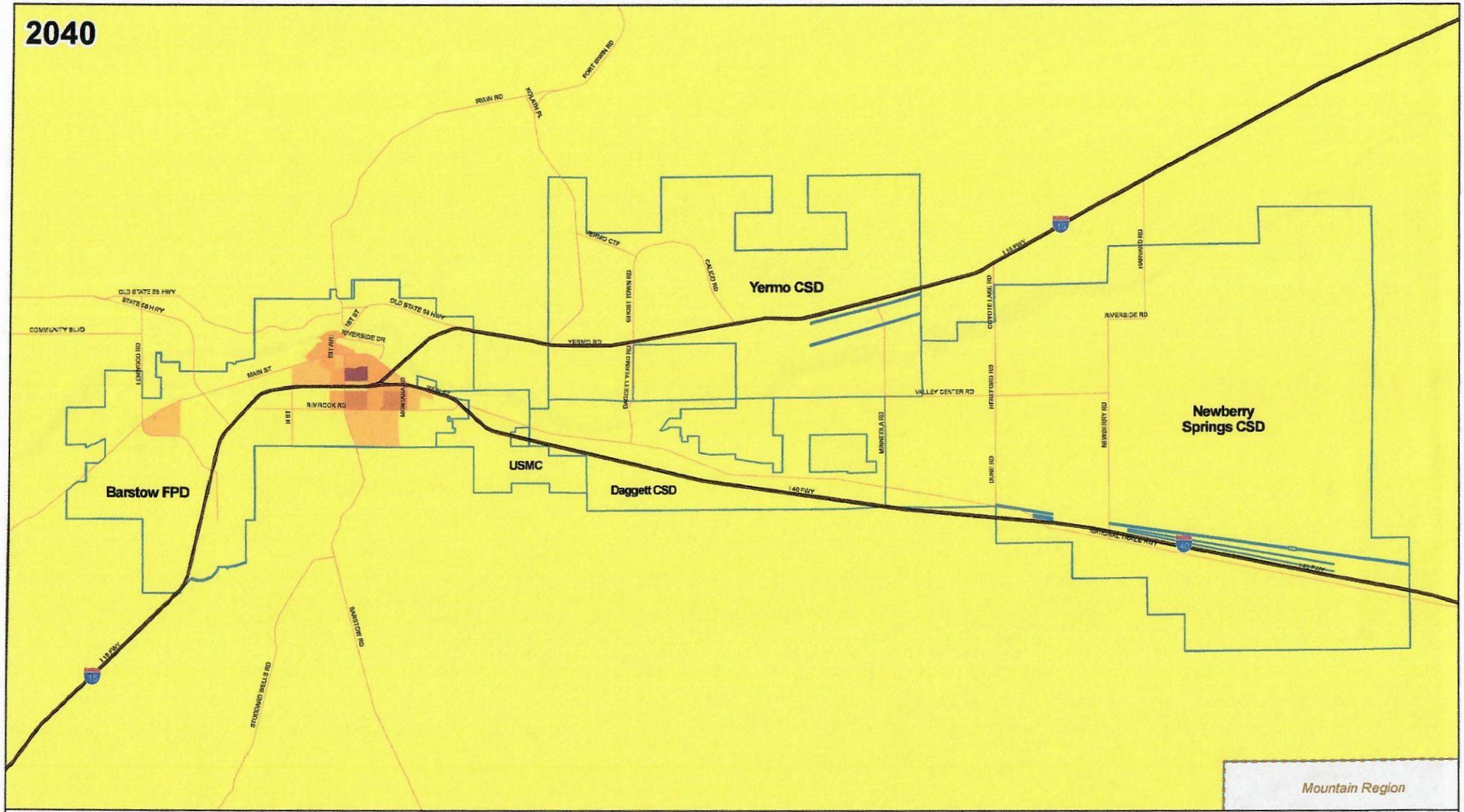


Figure 3-32: North Desert Region 2040 Population Density Comparison Detail Map B

G. DISADVANTAGED COMMUNITIES

The State of California adopted a definition of disadvantaged community (or "DAC") through passage of Proposition 50, the Water Security, Clean Drinking Water, Coastal and Beach Protection Act of 2002. This measure added §79505.5(a) to the California Water Code and defines a disadvantaged community as a "community with an annual median household income that is less than 80 percent of the statewide annual median household income." For 2016, 80% of the statewide median household income is $50,043. State law requires various entities (i.e. LAFCO, cities and counties, and water agencies) to, in some manner, identify disadvantaged communities, which can be located in both incorporated and unincorporated areas.

Disadvantaged Unincorporated Communities

Particular to annexations, the state mandate is to identify the location and characteristics of disadvantaged unincorporated communities (or "DUCs"). Gov. Code §56375 specifically prohibits an annexation to a city of any territory greater than ten acres where there exists a disadvantaged unincorporated community that is contiguous to the area of proposed annexation unless an application to annex the entire disadvantaged unincorporated community has also been filed. Gov. Code §56033.5 defines DUCs as "...inhabited territory [12 or more registered voters]...or as determined by Commission policy, that constitutes all or a portion of a "disadvantaged community"... with less than 80% of the median household income.

For LAFCO service reviews, the state requires that service reviews identify and describe the characteristics of disadvantaged communities of unincorporated areas at a minimum (commonly referred to as "DUCs"). For the purposes of defining a DUC, San Bernardino LAFCO policy defines a community as an inhabited area comprising no less than 10 dwellings adjacent or in close proximity to one another. Uninhabited areas include vacant or government lands. Table 3-15 identifies one area, Barstow Heights, which meets the criteria of a DUC (high population density and less than 80% of the median household income).

Table 3-15:
DUC Characteristics – North Desert Region

Barstow Heights	
Area, sq. miles	1.2
Pop., 2019	2,860
Households, 2019	909
Median Household Income	$46,293
Characteristics	Single family residential

Source: ESRI Community Analyst

Disadvantaged Communities ("DACs")

Although the state requires that LAFCOs focus their service review analyses on disadvantaged communities within unincorporated areas (commonly referred to as "DUCs"), the reality is that disadvantaged communities do not necessarily follow jurisdictional boundaries and occur in incorporated areas (cities) as well. It is LAFCO's responsibility to also recognize and describe the characteristics of the disadvantaged communities countywide regardless of jurisdiction. Table 3-11 identifies the characteristics of Disadvantaged Communities ("DACs") with population densities of more than 1,500 people per square mile.

As shown, each city in the North Desert has disadvantaged areas, with the majority of Adelanto classified as disadvantaged. Generally, most of Victorville east of I-16 and extending south into Hesperia, north Barstow, and southeast Apple Valley are classified as disadvantaged.

Table 3-16:
DAC characteristics – North Desert Region

	Central Adelanto	North Barstow	Central Hesperia
Area, sq. miles	4.72	2.76	15.37
Pop., 2019	18,497	11,834	44,879
Households, 2019	4,838	4,233	13,231
Median Household Income	$35,394	$38,714	$44,045
Characteristics	Single-family residential, medium density residential, business park	Single-family and medium density residential, commercial, public facility, industrial	Single-family residential, rural residential, general commercial, resource conservation, recreational commercial
	Central Victorville	**Southeast Apple Valley**	
Area, sq. miles	13.91	11.68	
Pop., 2019	54,152	32,639	
Households, 2019	15,768	11,394	
Median Household Income	$40,849	$42,638	
Characteristics	Single-family residential, commercial, public facilities	Single family and multi residential, commercial	

Source: ESRI Community Analyst

Figure 3-33, below, identifies the location of the North Desert Region DUCs, DACs and the area's population density. For this region, LAFCO uses a density factor of 1,500 people or more per square mile. (Previous mapping efforts relied on eliminating public lands as inhabited. The new approach more accurately interpolates population data directly into the block group data, focusing on DUC and DAC areas with high population density.)

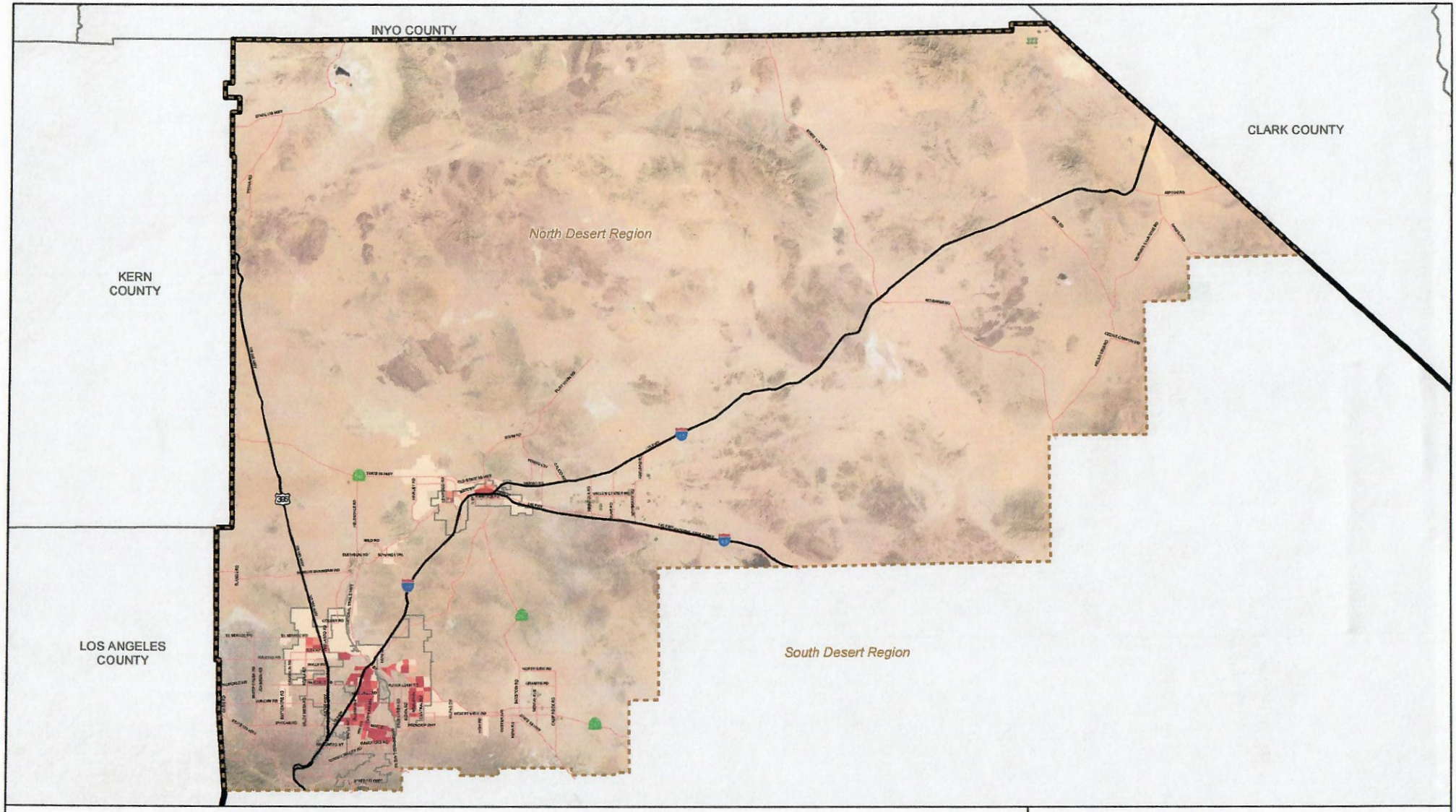


Figure 3-33: 2016 North Desert Region Disadvantaged Communities Population Density Analysis

DACs = Less than 80% of 2016 Statewide Median Household Income

Disclaimer: The information shown is intended to be used for general display only and is not to be used as an official map.