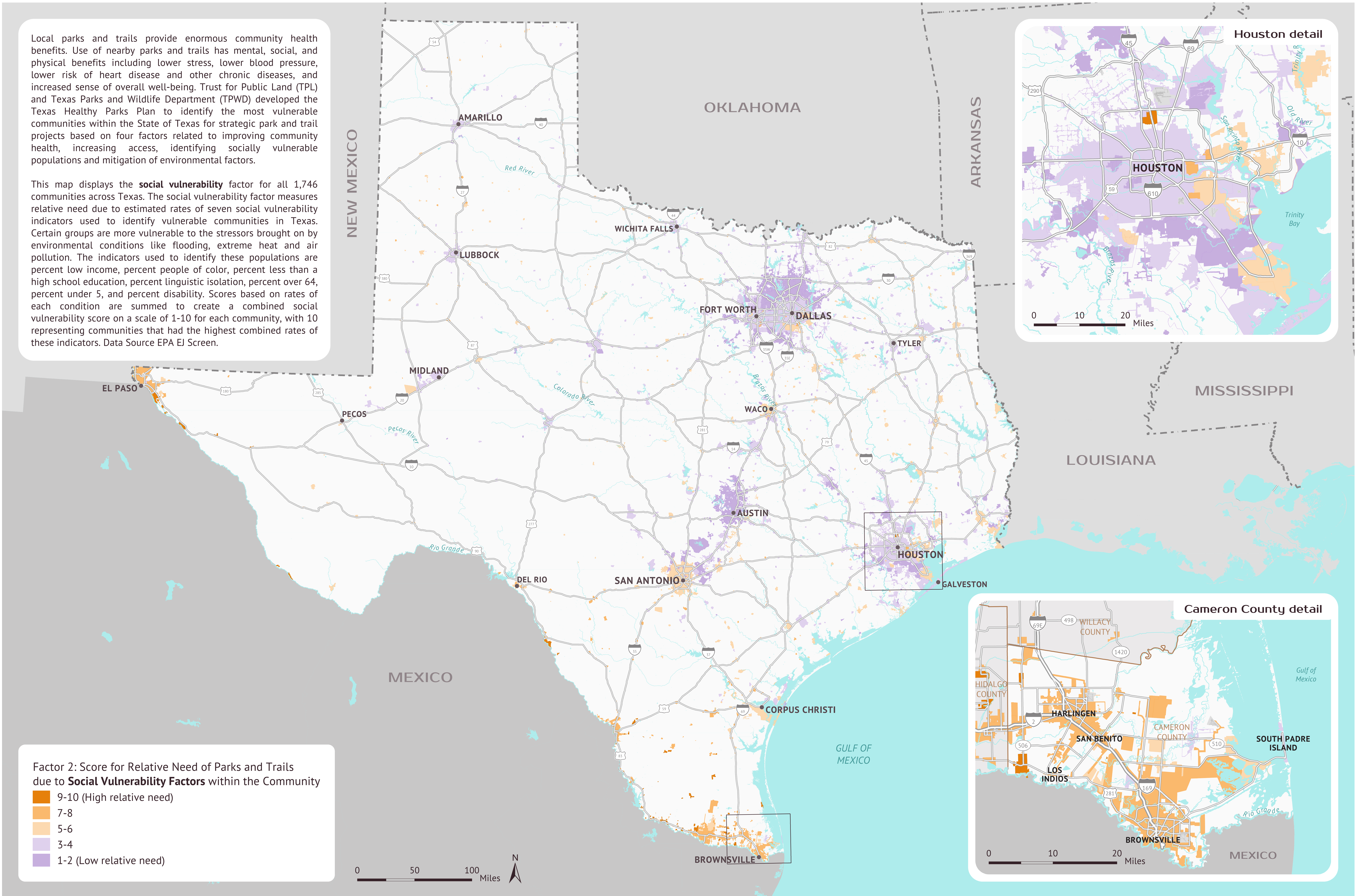


Local parks and trails provide enormous community health benefits. Use of nearby parks and trails has mental, social, and physical benefits including lower stress, lower blood pressure, lower risk of heart disease and other chronic diseases, and increased sense of overall well-being. Trust for Public Land (TPL) and Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) developed the Texas Healthy Parks Plan to identify the most vulnerable communities within the State of Texas for strategic park and trail projects based on four factors related to improving community health, increasing access, identifying socially vulnerable populations and mitigation of environmental factors.

This map displays the **social vulnerability** factor for all 1,746 communities across Texas. The social vulnerability factor measures relative need due to estimated rates of seven social vulnerability indicators used to identify vulnerable communities in Texas. Certain groups are more vulnerable to the stressors brought on by environmental conditions like flooding, extreme heat and air pollution. The indicators used to identify these populations are percent low income, percent people of color, percent less than a high school education, percent linguistic isolation, percent over 64, percent under 5, and percent disability. Scores based on rates of each condition are summed to create a combined social vulnerability score on a scale of 1-10 for each community, with 10 representing communities that had the highest combined rates of these indicators. Data Source EPA EJ Screen.



Factor 2: Score for Relative Need of Parks and Trails due to Social Vulnerability Factors within the Community

TEXAS HEALTHY PARKS PLAN