

Social Vulnerability

in Freeport

Certain people and groups are more vulnerable to the impacts of climate change than others. This means people in the same town may experience climate change differently.


8,622
Total Population

4,106
Total Households

Age & Health

25% of Freeport's population is 65 years old or order.
19% of the 65+ population lives alone.

Age and health affect the ability to control body temperature and maintain a healthy immune system, which make older and younger populations more prone to health-related climate impacts.

 **21%**
are under 18 years old

16% 
of households have a person living with a disability

Race & Ethnicity

9.0% People of Color
1.0% Limited English

Race and ethnicity are strongly correlated with disparities in health, exposure to environmental pollution, and vulnerability to natural hazards.


Socioeconomic


11.3% Live below the poverty line
3.2% Are unemployed
17.9% Are self-employed
0.8% Have a natural resource occupation
\$87k Median annual income

Climate change could have a big impact on the economy by shifting jobs (particularly those in fishing and forestry) and tourism

Housing & Transportation

People living below the poverty line or somewhere unaffordable have less money and time to prepare for climate change or deal with climate disasters.

 **16.4%**
homeowners who are cost burdened**

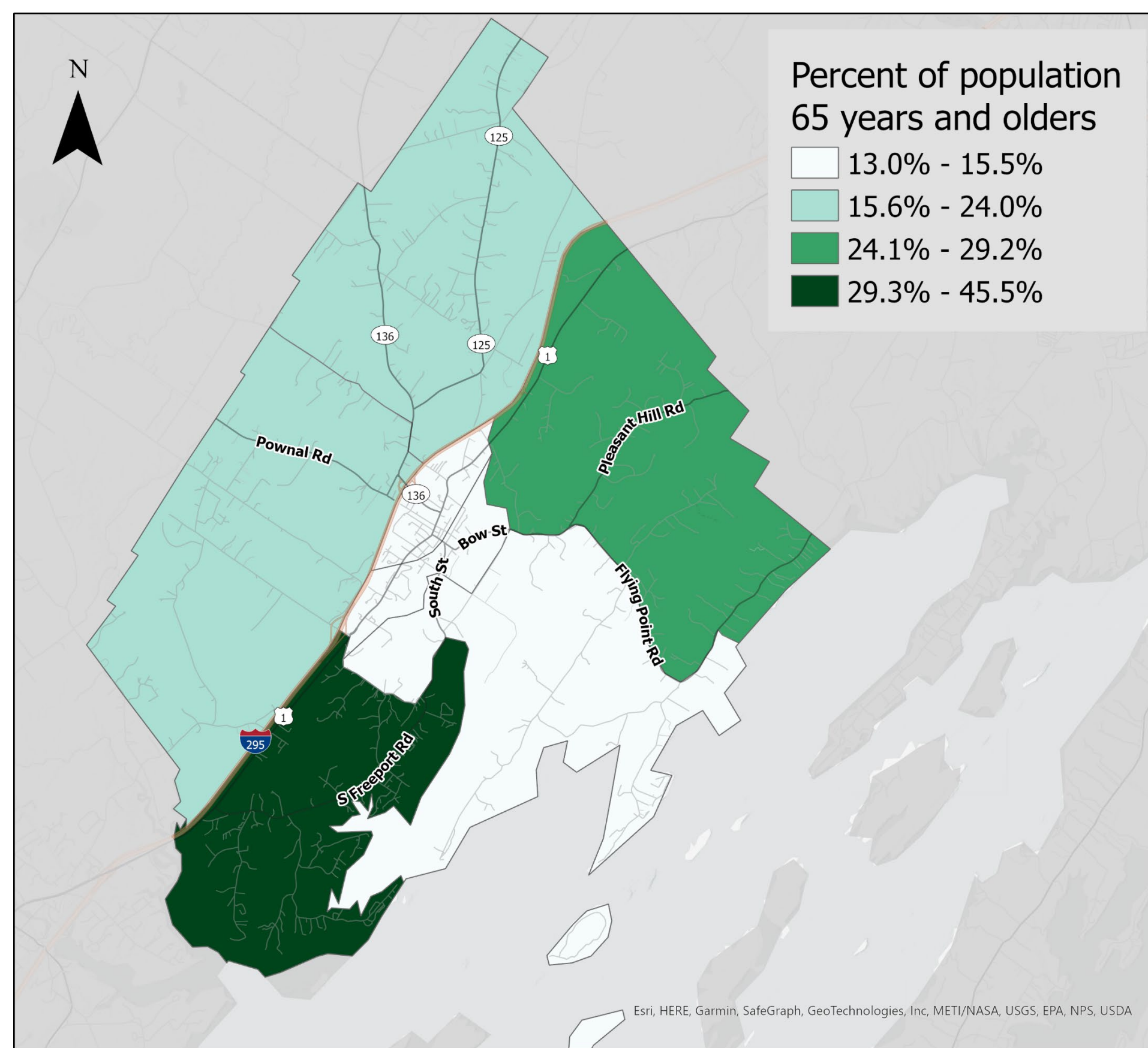
 **51.7%**
renters who are cost burdened

Mobile Homes	7.1%
Older Homes	38.2%
No Vehicle	2.2%
No Internet	4.6%
Renters	19.6%
Cost Burdened	22.7%

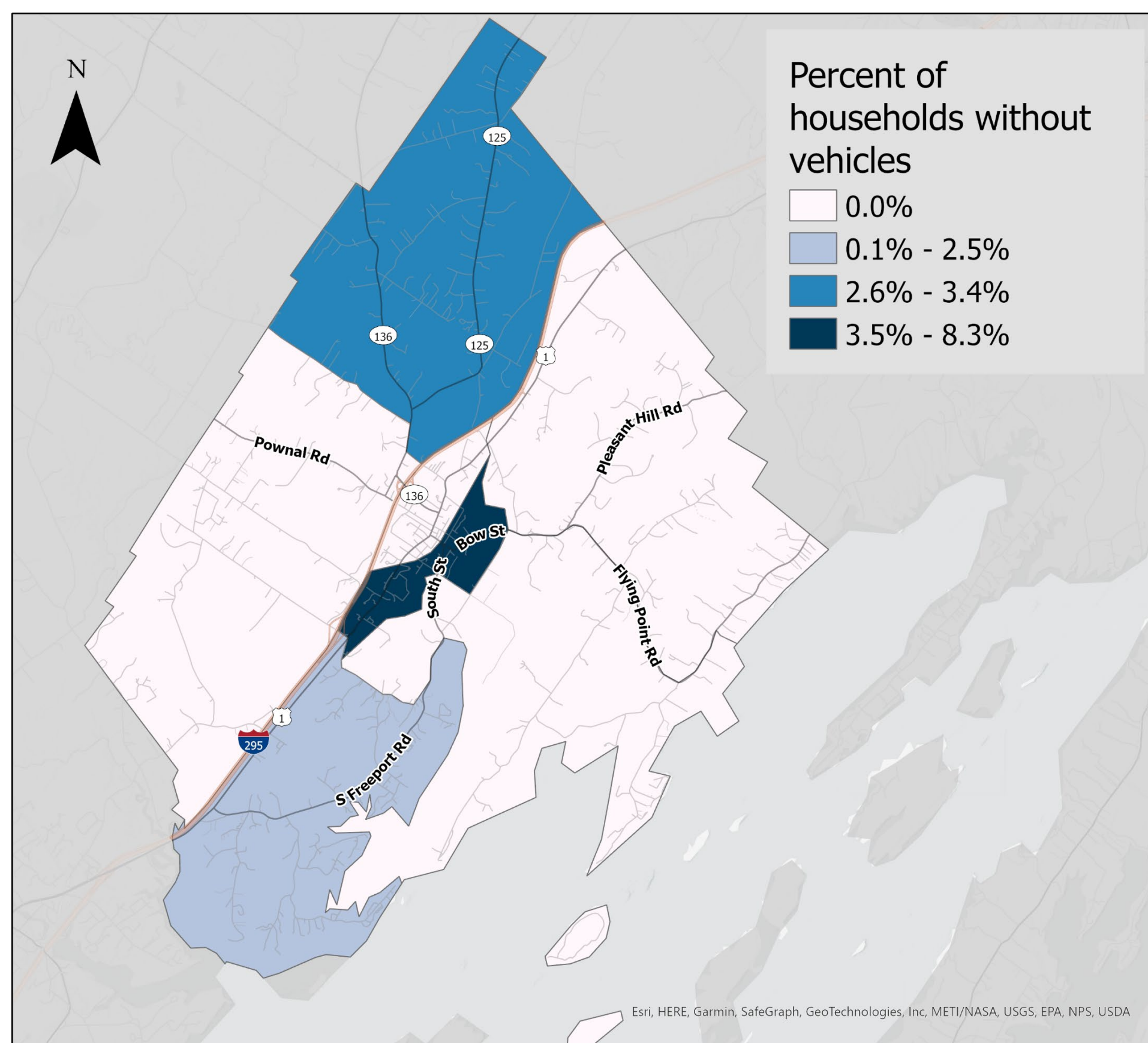
**Cost burdened households are those who spend 30% or more of their income on home or rental costs

Reducing social vulnerabilities creates healthier, more resilient communities.

Data from the ACS 5-year estimates



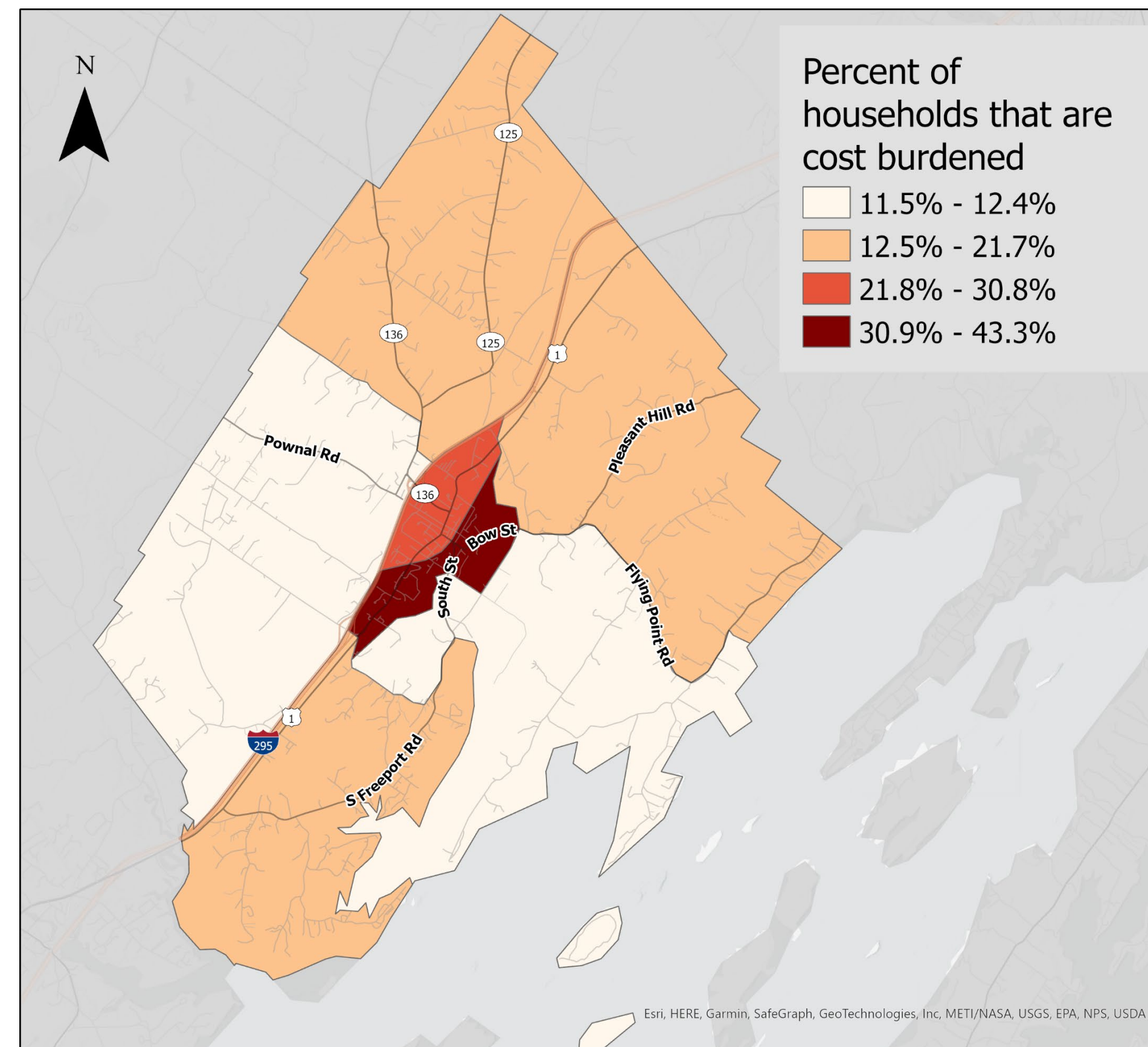
65 years and older: Older adults are more susceptible to climate change due to increased likelihood of pre-existing conditions – such as chronic disease or reduced mobility, and an increased reliance on external support.



No Vehicle: Those that live close to services may have no need for a vehicle, but those who live further away may have trouble getting reaching key services, especially during a climate disaster

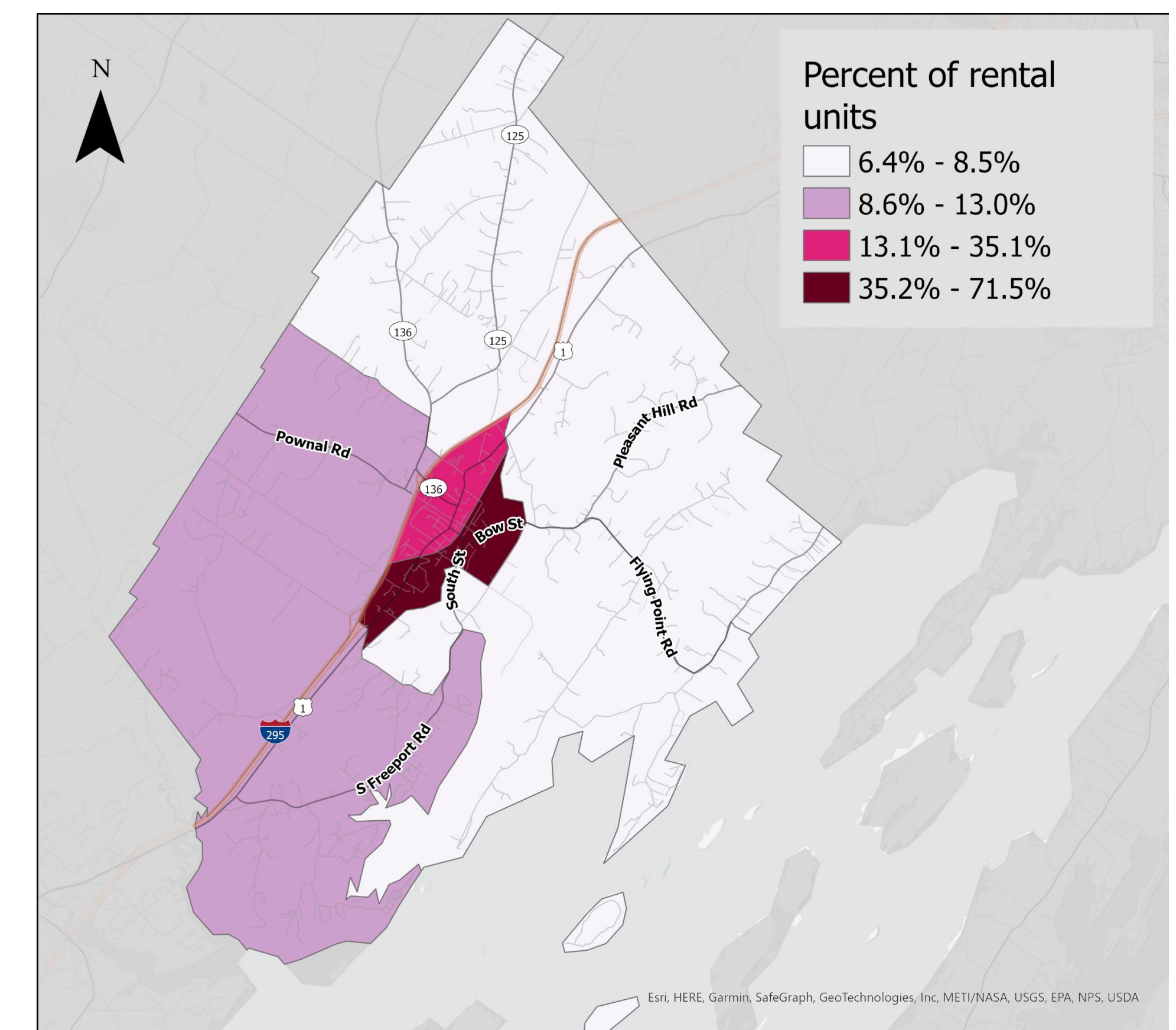
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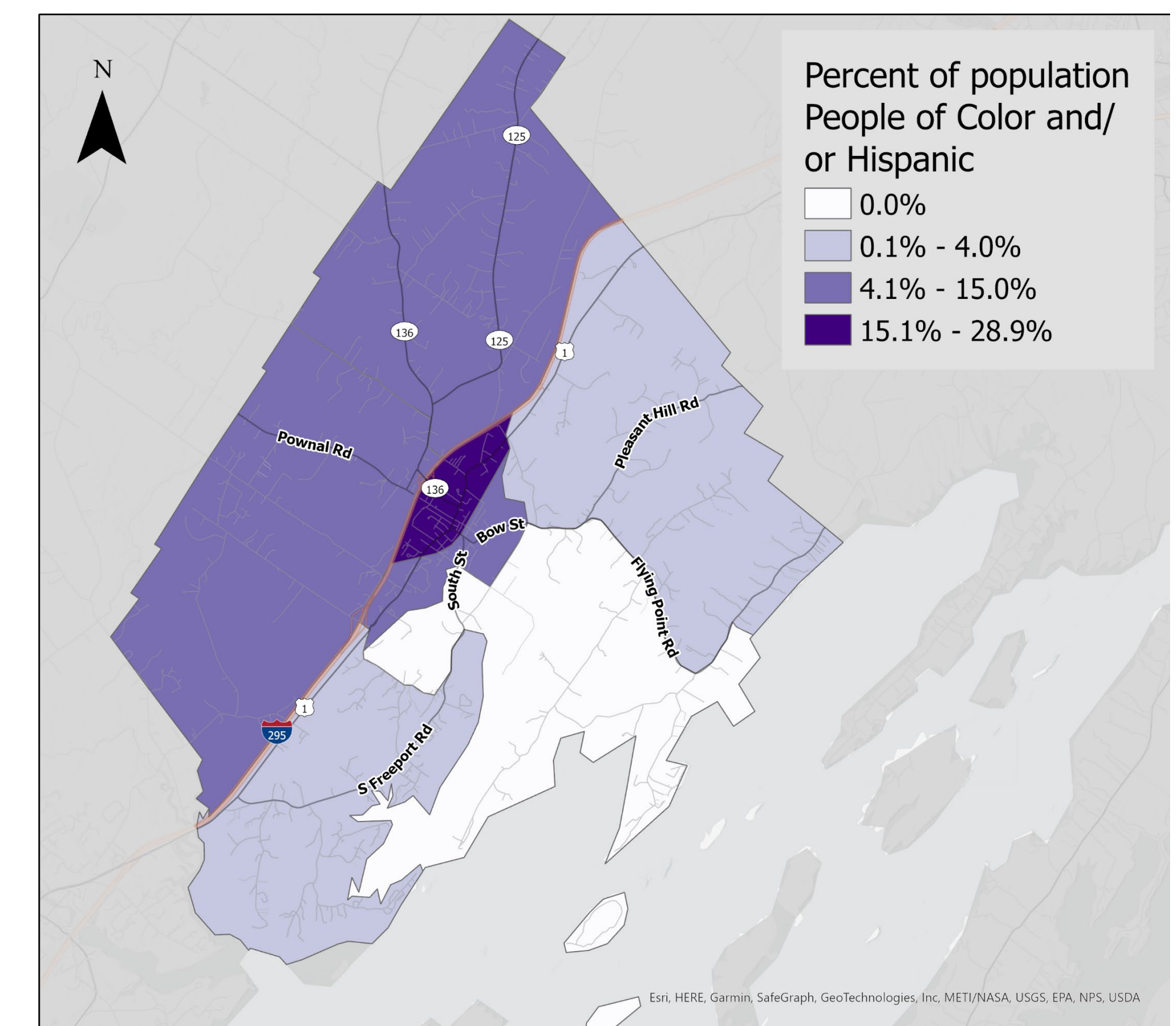


Cost Burdened: Cost-burdened households are less likely able to repair property damage from flooding or severe storms, purchase air conditioning, upgrade to energy efficient appliances, or evacuate or relocate in case of a disaster.

Data from the U.S. Census 2021 American Community Survey 5-year estimate shown at the block group level to highlight how social vulnerabilities differ across town. However, it is also important to note that Unfortunately, all data is inherently flawed and has limitations. Let us know what you see and what you are most concerned about.



Rental Units: Renters have far less freedom in preparing for climate hazards than homeowners, as major renovations or upgrades are ultimately decided by the property owner.



People of Color: National studies have shown that people of color are disproportionately impacted by climate change due historical systems and processes.