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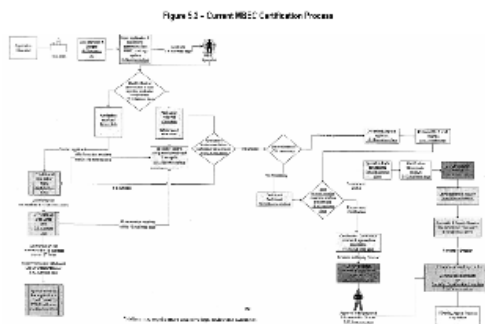
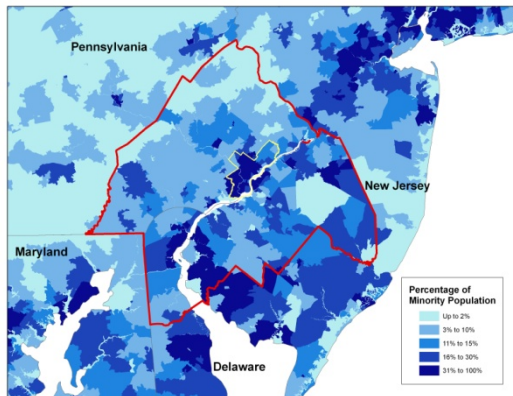
City of Philadelphia
Office of Economic Opportunity
1515 Arch Street 12th Floor
Philadelphia PA 19102

FY 2006 Study: May 2007
FY 2007 Study: June 2008
FY 2008 Study: June 2009
FY 2009 Study: August 2010
FY2010 Study: Forcoming 2011

From 2007 through 2011, Econsult has been retained by the City of Philadelphia to conduct an Annual Disparity Study. (Milligan and Company partnered with Econsult beginning with the FY 2008 study). The study was designed to analyze the City of Philadelphia’s utilization of Minority Business Enterprises (MBEs), Women Business Enterprises (WBEs), and Disabled Business Enterprises (DSBEs) (collectively known as M/W/DSBEs), relative to the availability of such firms to compete for City business.

These studies helped to determine the extent to which disparity exists, as well as provide critical data in the development and formulation of the Finance Director’s Annual Participation Goals. It is an important component of safeguarding the public interest in identifying and rectifying instances of discrimination, and proactively seeking ways to promote the inclusive participation of M/W/DSBEs in economic opportunities.

Disparity was measured as the ratio of M/W/DSBE utilization to M/W/DSBE availability, with “utilization” for each category and industry sector defined as the total dollar value of contracts awarded to for-profit M/W/DSBE prime contractors and sub-contractors certified by the City of Philadelphia’s Office of Economic Opportunity (OEO) divided by the dollar value of all City contracts awarded to for-profit prime contractors and sub-contractors, as recorded in OEO’s Annual Participation Report. A disparity ratio greater than 1.0 represents over-utilization, whereas a disparity ratio less than 1.0 represents under-utilization.



Each year, Econsult also made recommendations for future study methodology and scope, policy and programming, data collection, and goal-setting. These recommendations included streamlining of certification and contract processes, centralizing and automating processes via information technology systems, and building redundancy into the process to avoid bottlenecks and provide necessary checks and balance.