* Encouragingly, overall homicide rates have deceased in California over the last decade or so; from a 3-year high of 10.2 in 2006-2008 [and a single-year peak in 2007] to 5.3 in 2015-2017. This is an 18.7% decrease and highly statistically significant (p <0.001).
* The overall statewide decreases reflect large and highly significant decreases in many large and mostly urban counties: San Francisco (41.2% decrease), Alameda (40.2% decrease), Contra Costa (37.4% decrease), etc.
* However, the statewide trend obscures some remarkably large and also highly statically significant increases in some smaller, mostly rural counties: Humboldt (186.8% increase!), Kings (115.6% increase), Monterey (76.6% increase), San Joaquin (36.3% increase)
* Similarly, in a few instances, the overall county-wide trends obscure some striking trends in communities within those counties. As noted the homicide rates in Los Angeles have decreased substantially overall, but the rates increased significantly in the communities of “El Monte/Five Points” (98.4% increase) and “City Terrace East/East LA” (63.5% increase). Riverside/”East Hemet/Hemet/Valle Vista”; San Diego/”El Cajon Central and South/Fletcher Hills”.
* Overall increase in San Joaquin, but decrease in “Tracy” (50.4% decrease)
* AND, from 2006-2008 to 2015-2017 while, reflecting the overall state pattern, there were decreases in the rates among Blacks and Hispanics, there was a (slight) increase among Whites.
* Issues/limitations:
  + Missing data to access communities thoroughly
  + Population denominators are estimates
  + changing coding on death certificates (minor)
  + Migration patterns