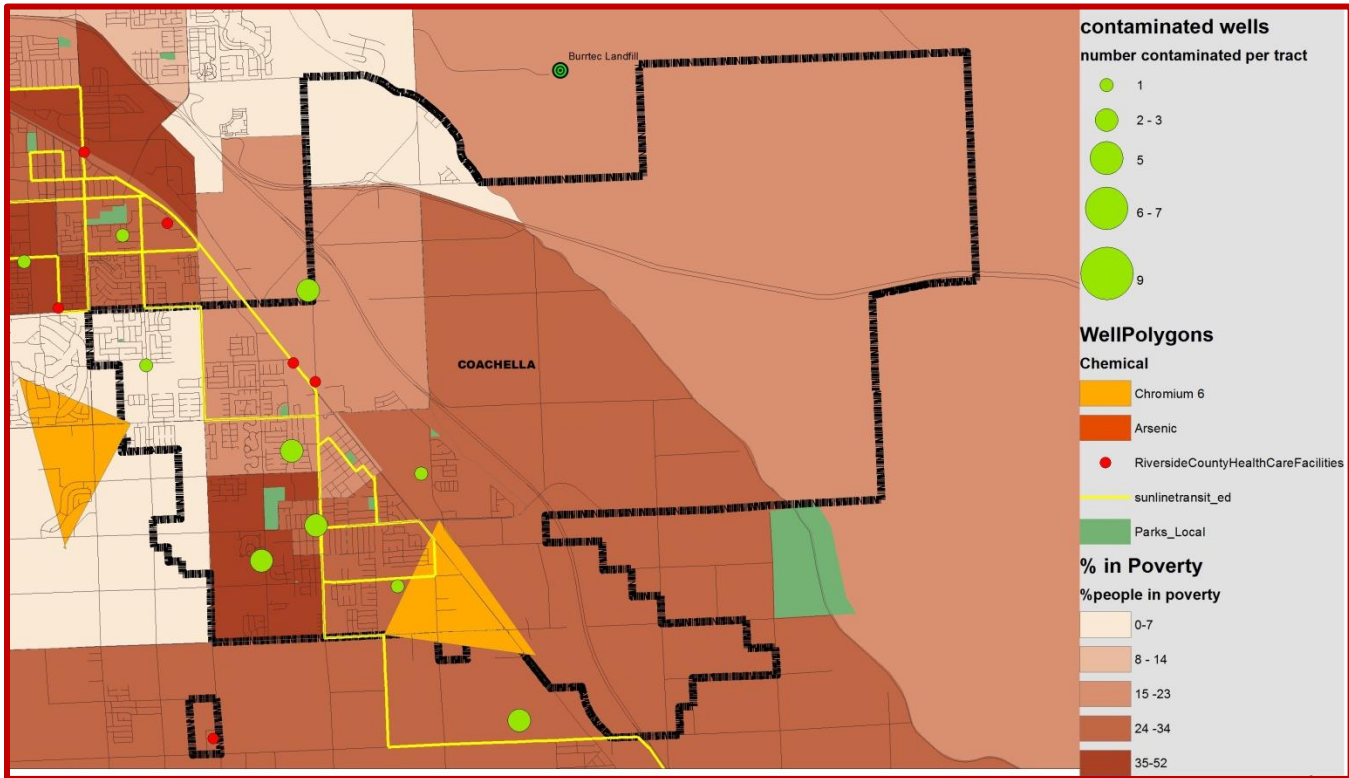


COACHELLA

“Small Town Atmosphere, Big City Advantages”ⁱ

In and Around Coachella



Coachella Fast Facts

County: Riverside

Population: 40,704

Hispanic/ Latino of any race: 96%

Poverty Rate: 24%¹

Number of Landfills within 2 miles of residences: 1

Air Quality:

98/100 for ozone and
107/100 for particulates

Water Contaminants:
Chromium 6, Arsenic

General information

Coachella is primarily a rural, agriculturally focused community in the desert and was one of the state's fastest growing cities in the late 20th century. When it first incorporated in 1946, there were 1,000 residents. In the 2010 census, the population was 40,704. The racial makeup of Coachella was 48.1% White, 0.8% African American, 0.7% Native American, 0.7% Asian, 0.1% Pacific Islander, 47.1% from other races, and 2.6% from two or more races. Hispanic or Latino of any race were 96.4%.

The city has a total area of 28.95 square miles.

The eastern half of the Coachella Valley is below sea level, and the area's average elevation is 68 feet below sea level. The Salton Sea, a saltwater lake located about 10 miles south of Coachella, lies 227 feet below sea level.

Coachella consistently ranks near the bottom of per capita income for California cities.

What the map shows

The map above is an overview of Coachella using the percent population in poverty as its base. In 2010, about 15% of the US population was in poverty.ⁱⁱ Coachella data show between 15 and 52% of the population in poverty with the average being 44%.ⁱⁱⁱ Added to this base map are data on transportation, medical facilities, water quality, recreation facilities and parks and landfills. It was compiled to provide an overview of both environmental risks and resources in Coachella.

Transportation

The city of Coachella appears to have adequate roads within the city limits. In addition, there is a public bus line serving the western section of the city.

Medical facilities

There are 2 clinics in Coachella.

Water quality

The majority of Coachella residents have access to municipal water and sewer systems through the Coachella Valley Water District (lines not shown on map). According to district water data, water quality is high and contamination from arsenic is mitigated through treatment. However, residents who are reliant on well water are most probably exposed to some arsenic. Chromium 6 is a water contaminant in the area (as shown in the triangles above). In the Coachella Valley Chromium-6 seems to be derived naturally from the serpentinitic rocks along the San Andreas Fault. These source rocks provide Coachella Valley groundwater with Chromium-6 levels five times greater than those in Hinkley during the Brockovich case. This contaminant is not removed through current treatment.

Recreation facilities and parks

There are just over 76 acres of parks and recreation facilities in the city of Coachella. They are: Bagdouma, Rancho Las Flores, De Oro, Sierra Vista, Veterans Memorial, Dateland, and Ye'Ve'Vichem Parks. These are primarily located in the western section of town. Bagdouma is the largest community park with 34 acres. Adjacent to Dateland Park is the Shady Lane Mural. This is a 1,400 foot mural created by over 20 artists, many of whom were born and raised in the Coachella Valley. The mural depicts a timeline of Mexican-American culture dating back to the pre-Columbian era.

Landfills

The Burrtec Landfill is just north of the City of Coachella boundary. It is primarily used for household waste.

End Notes

ⁱ Tagline on City of Coachella Website

ⁱⁱ American Community Survey (ACS), US Census Bureau

ⁱⁱⁱ ACS

