

Extreme Heat DRAFT San Diego County



Population Characteristics

Total Population size in 2022: 3.3 million

Latino Population: 1.1 million (34%) #4 in California

Non-Latino White Population: 1.4 million (44%)

County Statistics

Statistic	Latino	NL White	Total
Median Age	30.3	43.6	36.7
Non-U.S. Citizen Population	15%	3%	9%
Limited English Proficiency	23%	3%	13%
Median Household Income	\$77,438	\$107,854	\$96,974
Poverty Rate	13%	8%	11%
No Health Insurance	13%	4%	7%
Renter Occupied Households	59%	38%	46%
SNAP benefits	13%	5%	8%
Food Insecurity	39%	34%	37%
Self-Reported Health Status (Fair or Poor)	18%	9%	12%

Neighborhood-Level Analysis

Map 1. Latino and NL White Neighborhoods in San Diego County

High-Temperature Days

The federal government defines extreme heat in the U.S. as a period of 2 to 3 days above 90 degrees Fahrenheit.

- Latino neighborhoods historically experience more days with high temperatures. For instance, the average number of days with temperatures reaching 90°F between 2018 and 2022 is higher in Latino neighborhoods (5 days) compared to NL White neighborhoods (8 days), representing a significant increase of -3 days. This pattern extends to higher temperature thresholds of 95, 100, and 105 degrees Fahrenheit.
- Latino neighborhoods endure longer heat waves. In recent years, these neighborhoods experienced an average of 2 consecutive days with temperatures at or above 90°F, while NL White neighborhoods experienced 3 consecutive days, a difference of -1 days.

Looking forward, Latino neighborhoods are projected to experience a greater number of days with higher temperatures. Between 2035 and 2064, Latino neighborhoods are expected to experience an average of 23 days with temperatures of 90°F or higher, while NL White neighborhoods are expected to experience 53 days, a difference of -30 days. Between 2070 and 2099, Latino neighborhoods are expected to experience 41 days with temperatures of 90°F or higher, while NL White neighborhoods are expected to experience 81 days, a difference of -40 days.

Projected average number of days with temperatures of 100°F or higher:

- Between 2035 and 2064: Latino neighborhoods: 2 days, NL White neighborhoods: 10 days, a difference of -8 days.
- Between 2070 and 2099: Latino neighborhoods: 5 days, NL White neighborhoods: 18 days, a difference of -13 days.

Older adults and children are at higher risk for heat-related illnesses. On average, a higher percentage of residents in Latino neighborhoods are 18 and under (26%) compared to predominantly NL White neighborhoods (18%), a difference of 8%. However, predominantly NL White neighborhoods, on average, have a higher percentage of the elderly (22%), with more residents being 65 and over, compared to Latino neighborhoods (11%), a difference of -11%.

Infographics

