

Extreme Heat DRAFT Contra Costa County



Population Characteristics

Total Population size in 2022: 1.2 million

Latino Population: 0.3 million (26%) #14 in California

Non-Latino White Population: 0.5 million (41%)

County Statistics

Statistic	Latino	NL White	Total
Median Age	30.9	49.2	40.1
Non-U.S. Citizen Population	20%	3%	11%
Limited English Proficiency	27%	3%	13%
Median Household Income	\$96,027	\$133,672	\$120,020
Poverty Rate	11%	6%	8%
No Health Insurance	9%	2%	5%
Renter Occupied Households	46%	26%	33%
SNAP benefits	11%	4%	7%
Food Insecurity	48%	37%	44%
Self-Reported Health Status (Fair or Poor)	17%	10%	13%

Neighborhood-Level Analysis

Map 1. Latino and NL White Neighborhoods in Contra Costa 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 fewer days with high temperatures. For instance, the average number of days with temperatures reaching 90°F between 2018 and 2022 is 15 days in Latino neighborhoods compared to 26 days in NL White neighborhoods, representing a difference of 11 days.
- Latino neighborhoods endure shorter heat waves. In recent years, these neighborhoods experienced an average of 4 consecutive days with temperatures at or above 90°F, while NL White neighborhoods experienced 7 consecutive days, a difference of 3 days.

Looking forward, Latino neighborhoods are projected to experience a lesser number of days with higher temperatures. Between 2035 and 2064, Latino neighborhoods are expected to experience an average of 38 days with temperatures of 90°F or higher, while NL White neighborhoods are expected to experience 72 days, a difference of 34 days. Between 2070 and 2099, Latino neighborhoods are expected to experience 52 days with temperatures of 90°F or higher, while NL White neighborhoods are expected to experience 93 days, a difference of 41 days. Projected average number of days with temperatures of 100°F or higher:

- Between 2035 and 2064: Latino neighborhoods: 8 days, NL White neighborhoods: 17 days, a difference of 9 days.
- Between 2070 and 2099: Latino neighborhoods: 14 days, NL White neighborhoods: 29 days, a difference of 15 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 (30%) compared to predominantly NL White neighborhoods (20%), a difference of 10 days%. However, predominantly NL White neighborhoods, on average, have a higher percentage of the elderly (28%), with more residents being 65 and over, compared to Latino neighborhoods (8%), a difference of 20 days%.

Infographics

