

Extreme Heat DRAFT Fresno County



Population Characteristics

Total Population size in 2022: 1.0 million

Latino Population: 0.5 million (54%) #6 in California

Non-Latino White Population: 0.3 million (27%)

County Statistics

Statistic	Latino	NL White	Total
Median Age	27.9	46.0	32.8
Non-U.S. Citizen Population	16%	2%	11%
Limited English Proficiency	25%	2%	18%
Median Household Income	\$56,913	\$81,014	\$67,756
Poverty Rate	24%	11%	20%
No Health Insurance	9%	4%	7%
Renter Occupied Households	55%	34%	46%
SNAP benefits	25%	10%	19%
Food Insecurity	49%	39%	47%
Self-Reported Health Status (Fair or Poor)	24%	14%	20%

Neighborhood-Level Analysis

Map 1. Latino and NL White Neighborhoods in Fresno 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 (136 days) compared to NL White neighborhoods (105 days), representing a significant increase of 31 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 88 consecutive days with temperatures at or above 90°F, while NL White neighborhoods experienced 58 consecutive days, a difference of 30 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 144 days with temperatures of 90°F or higher, while NL White neighborhoods are expected to experience 145 days, a difference of -1 days. Between 2070 and 2099, Latino neighborhoods are expected to experience 165 days with temperatures of 90°F or higher, while NL White neighborhoods are expected to experience 165 days, a difference of 0 days.

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

- Between 2035 and 2064: Latino neighborhoods: 79 days, NL White neighborhoods: 84 days, a difference of -5 days.
- Between 2070 and 2099: Latino neighborhoods: 105 days, NL White neighborhoods: 108 days, a difference of -3 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 (31%) compared to predominantly NL White neighborhoods (25%), a difference of 6%. However, predominantly NL White neighborhoods, on average, have a higher percentage of the elderly (19%), with more residents being 65 and over, compared to Latino neighborhoods (10%), a difference of -9%.

Infographics

