
Data Profile: Alameda County and Oakland



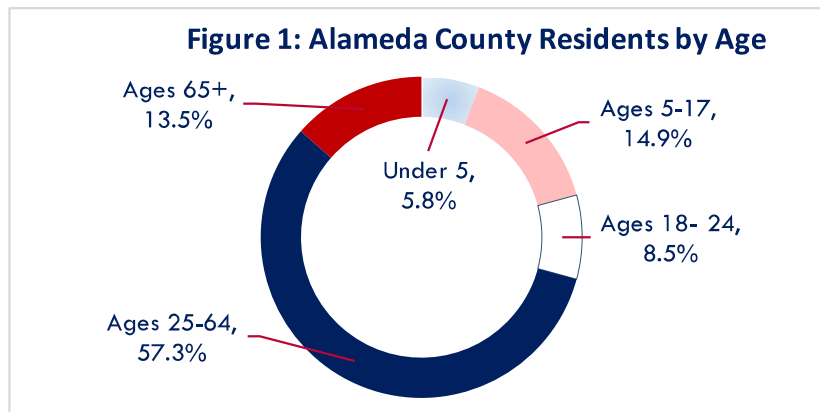
2021



General Population of Alameda County and Oakland

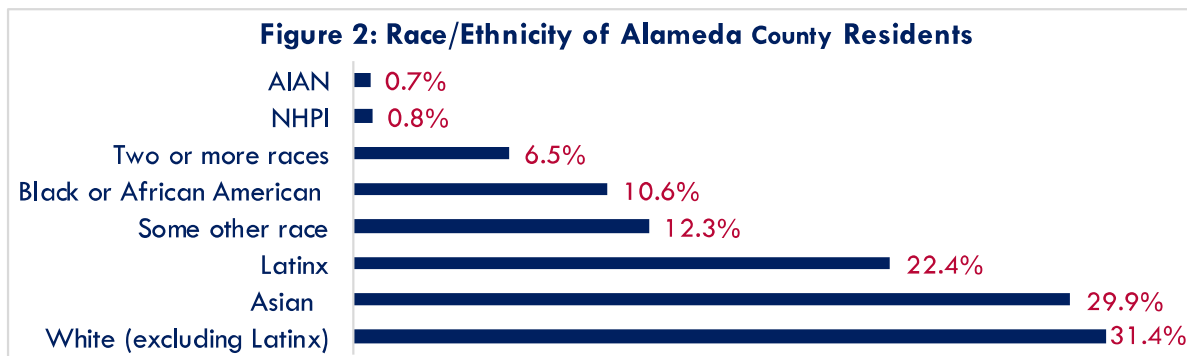
Population: Per the 2015-2019 American Community Survey (ACS) 5-Year Estimates, Alameda County's total population is estimated at 1,656,754 residents, a **10.7% increase from the 2010 Census report**. The city of Oakland has 425,097 residents, an increase of 8.9% and represents 25.6% of the county's total population. The 18 cities and unincorporated areas in the county, excluding Oakland and Berkeley, experienced a 7% increase with 1,091,994 residents.

Age: The 2015-2019 ACS reports that the median age in Alameda County is 37.6. As shown in Figure 1, 5.8% (96,849) are children under 5 years of age; 14.9% (247,178) are children and youth between 5 and 17; 8.5% (140,065) are young adults between 18 and 24; 57.3% (948,636) are adults between the ages of 25 and 64; and seniors 65 years and older account for (13.5%) 224,026. **The population increased by 27,139 (1.64%) from the 2013-2017 ACS report and seniors 65 years and older accounted for 56.5% (15,333) of the increase.** The population of Oakland increased by 7,655 (1.8%), and those aged 65 years or older accounted for 43.5% (3,333) of the increase.



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2015-2019 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

Race/Ethnicity: Alameda County is one of the most diverse counties in the nation. According to the 2015-2019 ACS, 31.4% (520,447) of the population are White, 29.9% (499,382) are Asian, 22.4% (371,019) are Latinx, 10.6% (175,751) are Black /African American, 12.3% (179,244) identified as some other raceⁱ, 6.5% (106,993) identified themselves as part of two or more of the five race groupsⁱⁱ, 0.8% (13,900) are Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander (NHPI), and 0.7% (11,120) are American Indian/Alaska Native (AIAN) as shown below in Figure 2.



Source: US Census Bureau, 2015-2019 ACS 5-Year Estimates

Immigration: According to the 2015-2019 ACS, over a third (32.5%) of all Alameda County residents were not born in the United States. And close to half (42.6%) speak a language other than English at home, with Asian and Pacific Islander languages making up 42.8% of those households and Spanish making up 35.8%.

Population by City and Unincorporated Areas: The population breakdown by city and unincorporated areas in Figure 3 shows that the largest concentration of Whites reside in unincorporated Sunol (80.6%), Piedmont (70.9%), and Livermore (61.9%). Fremont has the largest concentration of Asians at 59.4%; Union City has 53.4%; and Dublin has 48.9%. The largest percentage of Latinx population reside in the unincorporated areas of Cherryland at 55.5%, Ashland at 45.4%, San Lorenzo at 41.1%, and the city of Hayward at 40.3%. The largest percentage of Black/African Americans live in the county's largest urban area, the city of Oakland at 23.8%, followed by the unincorporated area of Fairview at 19.1%, city of Emeryville at 15.1%, and the unincorporated area of Ashland at 14.2%. **The number of Black/African Americans living in Alameda County has decreased significantly over the last ten years, from 186,492 in 2010 to 175,751 in the 2016-2019 ACS.**

Figure 3: Race/Ethnicity Breakdown of Alameda County Cities and Unincorporated Areas									
City or Unincorporated Area	Total Pop.	Am Indian /AN	Asian	Black /AA	Latinx	NHPI	Some Other Race	Two + Races	White
Alameda County	1,656,754	0.7%	29.9%	10.6%	22.4%	0.8%	12.3%	6.5%	31.4%
Alameda City	19,804	0.5%	30.3%	7.4%	12.8%	0.3%	5.1%	8.2%	48.2%
Albany	24,430	0.8%	29.2%	3.0%	15.0%	0.4%	7.5%	9.5%	44.1%
Ashland*	121,485	1.4%	24.3%	14.2%	45.4%	0.5%	16.0%	5.5%	11.4%
Berkeley	63,013	0.5%	21.0%	7.9%	11.4%	0.5%	3.8%	7.5%	53.3%
Castro Valley*	16,066	0.9%	27.3%	8.2%	15.0%	0.5%	3.0%	6.8%	43.4%
Cherryland*	61,240	0.6%	10.4%	12.9%	55.5%	2.5%	25.0%	3.3%	17.6%
Dublin	11,899	0.5%	48.9%	3.7%	10.1%	0.4%	1.9%	5.8%	32.4%
Emeryville	10,532	0.5%	28.8%	15.1%	9.6%	0.5%	3.1%	7.4%	40.3%
Fairview*	235,740	0.1%	17.3%	19.1%	23.6%	0.0%	8.9%	9.5%	34.6%
Fremont	159,293	0.5%	59.4%	3.1%	12.9%	0.9%	7.6%	4.8%	20.2%
Hayward	89,699	0.8%	27.2%	9.6%	40.3%	2.2%	18.0%	7.2%	16.2%
Livermore	47,171	0.3%	11.6%	1.8%	19.8%	0.5%	3.4%	6.4%	61.9%
Newark	11,317	0.7%	33.2%	3.9%	34.8%	0.9%	23.6%	6.1%	23.7%
Oakland	81,717	0.9%	15.5%	23.8%	27.0%	0.6%	16.9%	6.9%	28.3%
Piedmont	90,025	0.0%	17.8%	1.4%	4.2%	0.1%	0.2%	6.0%	70.9%
Pleasanton	25,569	0.3%	34.2%	1.8%	9.5%	0.5%	2.1%	5.0%	50.1%
San Leandro	850	0.7%	34.7%	10.3%	27.1%	1.1%	9.4%	6.6%	23.2%
San Lorenzo*	74,722	1.3%	26.3%	3.0%	41.1%	1.5%	12.5%	6.1%	25.2%
Sunol*	850	0.0%	11.4%	0.5%	6.6%	0.0%	0.4%	0.9%	80.6%
Union City	74,722	0.5%	53.4%	4.9%	20.2%	1.7%	12.7%	6.3%	15.4%

* unincorporated areas, designated as Census Designated Places (CDP) in the Census
Source: US Census Bureau, 2015-2019 ACS 5-Year Estimates

Poverty in Alameda County

Poverty: The U.S. Census Bureau uses income thresholds that vary by family size and composition to determine who is living in poverty. Based on the 2021 federal poverty guidelines in the table below (Figure 4), the income threshold for an individual living in poverty is \$12,880 annually (around \$6.19 per hour) and \$25,760 (\$12.38 per hour) for those making 200% of poverty. The California minimum wage is currently \$14.00 per hour, and Oakland’s minimum wage is currently \$14.36 per hour.

Size of Family Unit or Number in Household	Monthly Poverty Guideline	Annual Poverty Guideline	200% of Poverty
1	\$1,073.33	\$12,880	\$25,760
2	\$1,451.67	\$17,420	\$34,840
3	\$1,830.00	\$21,960	\$43,920
4	\$2,208.33	\$26,500	\$53,000
5	\$2,586.67	\$31,040	\$62,080
6	\$2,965.00	\$35,580	\$71,160
7	\$3,343.33	\$40,120	\$80,240
8	\$3,721.67	\$44,660	\$89,320

For family units with more than 8 members, add \$4,540/year for each additional member.

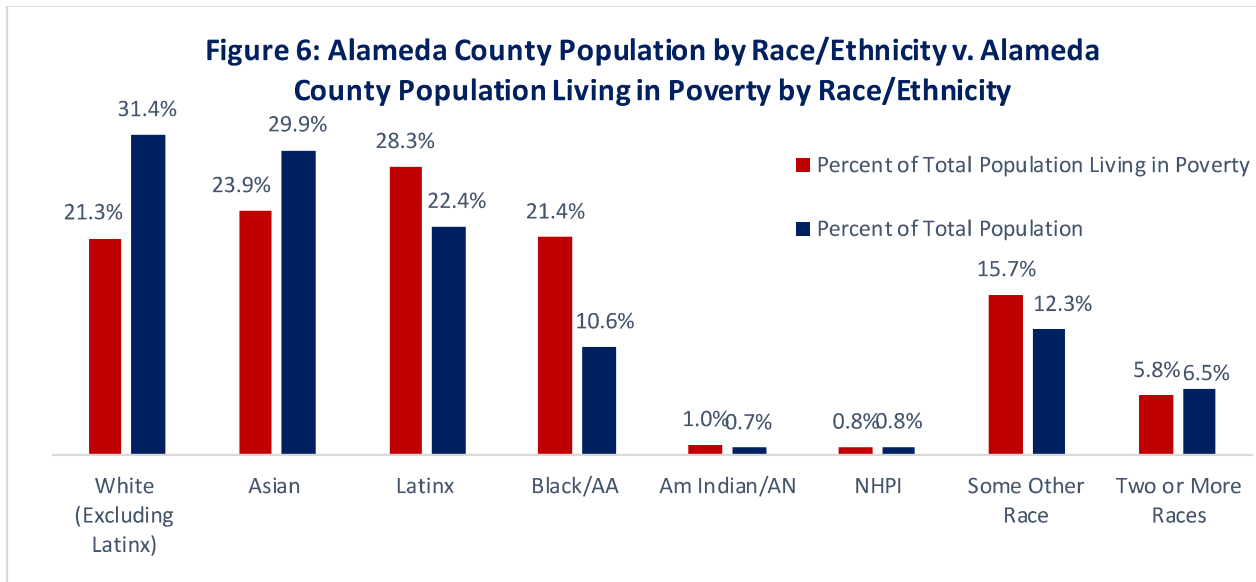
Source: 2021 U.S. Dept. of Health & Human Services Poverty Guidelines

The 2015-2019 ACS estimates that 9.9% (161,581) of Alameda County residents live below the federal poverty level. Oakland has 70,358 residents living in poverty, which is 43.5% of the county total. **Overall, this represents a reduction in residents living in poverty from 2010 of 10,767 in Alameda County and 3,977 in Oakland.** For the Alameda County-Oakland Community Action Partnership (AC-OCAP) service areas, there was a 12,734 reduction from 2010 as shown in the table below (Figure 5).

	2000 Below Poverty	% of Total Pop.	2010 Below Poverty	% of Total Pop.	2015-19 Below Poverty	% of Total Pop.	Change from 2010
Alameda County (AC)	156,804	11.0%	172,348	11.7%	161,581	9.9%	(10,767)
Oakland	76,489	19.4%	74,335	19.3%	70,358	16.7%	(3,977)
AC (no Oakland & Berkeley)	60,820	6.4%	79,543	8.1%	70,786	6.4%	(8,757)
AC-OCAP Areas	137,309	9.6%	153,878	10.4%	141,144	9.3%	(12,734)
Berkeley	19,495	20.0%	18,470	18.4%	20,437	18.7%	1,967

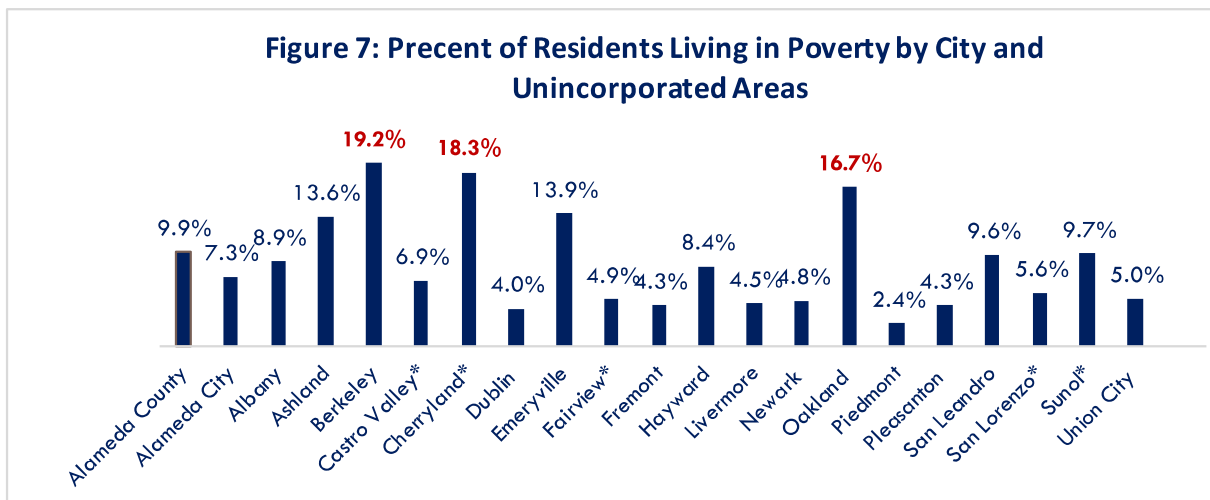
Source: US Census Bureau 2000, 2010, American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates – 2015-2019

Racial/Ethnic Breakdown of those Living in Poverty: The bar chart below (Figure 6) shows that the percentage of people living in poverty for Black/African Americans, Latinx, American Indian/American Native, and those indicating some other race exceeds their population percentage. It is worth noting, that while **Black/African Americans account for only 10.6% of the county's population, they represent 21.4% of all people living below the poverty level.** While Whites represent 31.4% of the population, they represent 21.3% of those living in poverty. Of all the Black/African American people living in Alameda County, 19.6% live in poverty, compared to just 6.6% of all White people in the county and 7.7% of all Asians.



Source: US Census Bureau, 2015-2019 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates - S1701

Geography of Poverty: The bar chart below (Figure 7) highlights the percentage of residents living below the federal poverty level for each city and unincorporated area within Alameda County. **The city of Berkeley has the highest poverty rate in the County at 19.2% due in part to the high number of university students.**



Source: US Census Bureau, 2015-2019 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates - S1701

*unincorporated areas

Poverty in Unincorporated Areas: Alameda County has a number of unincorporated areas and communities. The unincorporated areas of Ashland (19.2%) and Cherryland (18.3%) have the highest percentage of residents living in poverty. In Ashland, 19% of children are living in poverty, and in Cherryland it is 25.7%. Black/African Americans are disproportionately impacted representing 21% of the total population living in poverty in Ashland and 34.9% in Cherryland.

Children and Youth: Nearly 25% or **one in four** of all people living in poverty in Alameda County are children under the age of 18. **Latinx children make up 46.4% of the children living below the poverty level- that's almost half.** Black/African American children account for 24.8%, some other race for 26.6%, two or more races 9.5%, and White children account for 9.3%. However, the number of children living in poverty in Alameda County (38,366) has decreased overall by 15% (6,016), compared to the total number of children living in poverty in the 2013-2017 ACS (44,382).

Youth under 18 years of age account for 34.5% of the total number of people living in poverty in Cherryland and 34.4% of the total population living in poverty in Ashland. **Fifty-three percent of the 38,366 children living in poverty in Alameda County reside in Oakland.** In Oakland, 47.3% of all children living in poverty are Latinx, 34.3% are Black/African American and 34.4% are some other race.

Seniors: According to the ACS 2015-2019 report, in Alameda County 12.9% (20,891) of those living in poverty are seniors aged 65 and older. Cities and unincorporated areas that have seniors as a higher percentage of people living in poverty than others include Union City (22.1%), San Lorenzo (19.8%), Sunol (19.5%), Fremont (18.4%), and Pleasanton (18.3%). Forty-two percent of all seniors living in poverty in Alameda County reside in Oakland. Of all seniors living in poverty in Alameda County, 53.5% are Latinx, 39.4% are Asian, 28% are White, 18% are Black/African American, 5% are some other race, 2.5% are two or more races, and .9% are American Indian/Alaskan Native.

Getting By: Poverty data does not show the full picture of those struggling to get by in Alameda County. **In 2019, the National Low Income Housing Coalition named Alameda County as one of the top ten least affordable counties in the nation.** Over the last several years, areas historically home to low- and middle-income people of color are now experiencing gentrification. The result is a migration east, to areas with less expensive housing or in some cases, to families living on the streets or in vehicles. And while overall poverty may have fallen in the county, neighborhoods in East and West Oakland have had census tracts with 20% or greater of the individuals falling below the poverty line for five decades. Persistent poverty has a long-term impact on health and well-being. Furthermore, the COVID-19 pandemic has plunged many households into dire economic circumstances, with the long-term impact yet to be determined.

Indicators of Poverty within Alameda County

Poverty is rooted in a number of social and economic issues including unemployment and low-wages, inadequate or unaffordable housing, harmful policies, poor health, lack of food security, inadequate access to medical and social services, and low educational attainment. As part of a comprehensive effort to gauge the community's well-being, the AC-OCAP reviews the following community indicators.

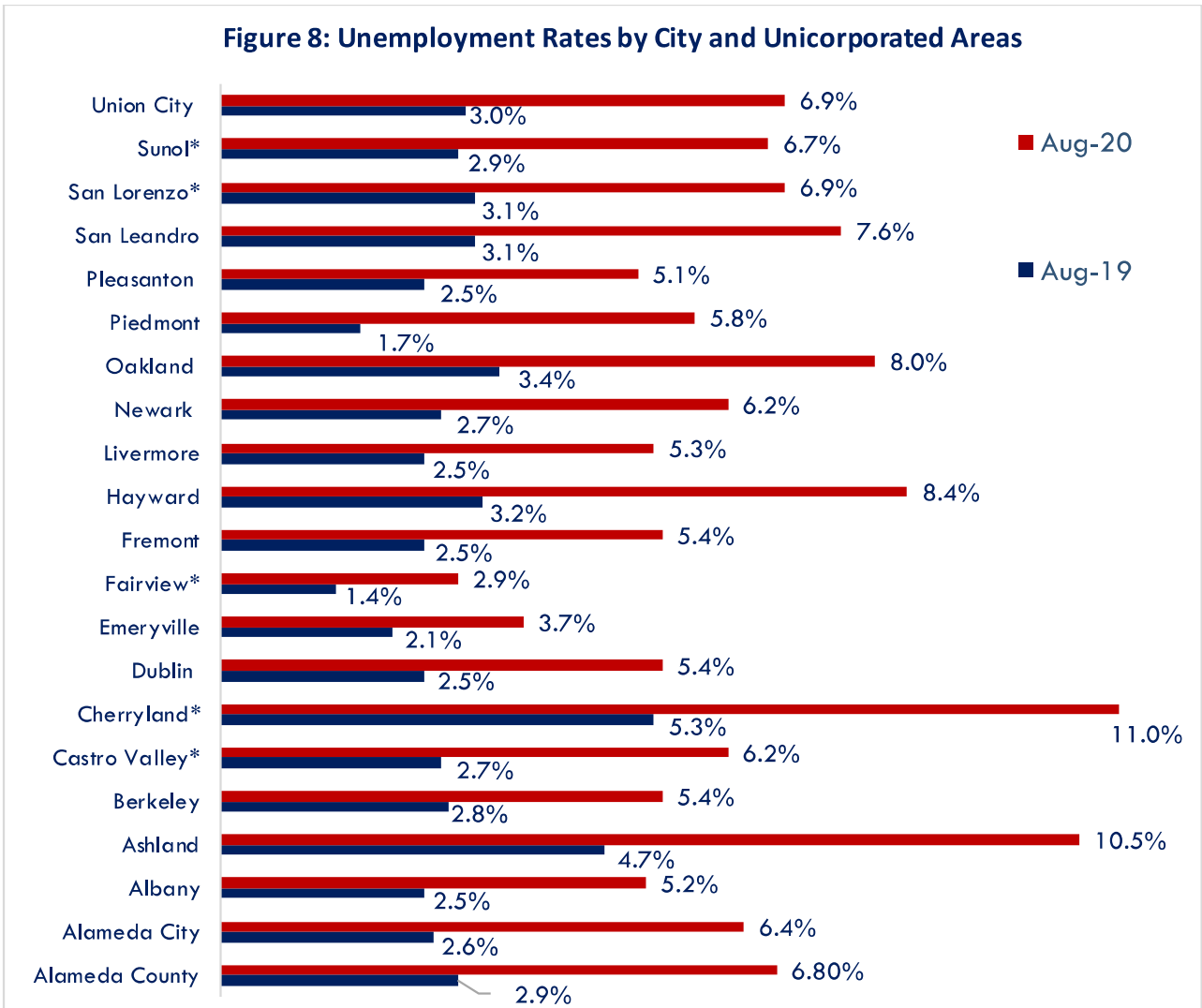
Income: According to the 2015-2019 ACS, the estimated median household income in Alameda County is \$99,406. Asians earn a median income of \$124,079 and Whites earn \$114,427 while Latinx households earn \$77,990 and Black/African Americans earn a median of \$51,749. In the city of Oakland, the estimated median household income is much lower than that of the county at \$73,692. Asians earn a median income of \$60,434 and Whites earn \$118,570, while Latinx households earn a median of \$60,683 and Black/African Americans earn \$43,299 in Oakland.

An annual income of less than \$24,999, just below 200% of the federal poverty level (\$25,760 for one person), is earned by 13.1% (75,610) of Alameda County households. Additionally, **40.1% of single female-headed households with children aged 0-17 years have incomes below the poverty level** in Alameda County, and in Oakland it is 52.4%. In addition, 60,890 households in Alameda County received supplemental social security income (SSI), cash public assistance, and/or Food Stamps/Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits over the past year, according to the 2015-2019 ACS.

The Insight Center for Community Economic Development's (ICCED) Family Needs Calculator states that for 2021 in Alameda County, **a family of four, consisting of two adults with one preschooler and one school-age child, would need an annual household income of \$123,080 to meet their basic needs.** This would require a 40-hour per week job earning \$59.17 per hour, which is over four times the \$26,500 (\$12.74 per hour) poverty level for a family of four.

The California Elder Economic Security Standard Index (Elder Index) calculates that a single senior renting a one -bedroom apartment in Alameda County would need \$26,043 a year to meet their basic annual expenses (housing, utilities, food, transportation, and health care) which is more than double the federal poverty level of \$12,880 for a single person. **Three out of four single Alameda County seniors live below 200% of the poverty level, and well below the Elder Economic Security Index.**

Unemployment: As of March 2021, the California Employment Development Department (EDD) reports Alameda County's unemployment rate is 6.5% (54,800), **two times what it was just one year ago**, a result of the COVID-19 crisis. Between February 2020 and February 2021, the total number of jobs located in the East Bay **decreased by 113,900, or 9.5%**. The highest unemployment rates for cities and unincorporated in Alameda County as of February 2021 are in Cherryland at 11%, Ashland at 10.5%, Hayward at 8.4%, and Oakland at 8%. The bar chart (Figure 8) below shows the unemployment rate by cities and unincorporated areas of Alameda County in August of 2019 and August 2020. **The economic crisis is particularly acute for women of color in California.** For example, between August and October, 2020 the unemployment rate for women in families with income of \$50,000 or less was 15% to 29%, compared to only 6% in families with income above \$150,000.



*Unincorporated areas

Source: State of California, Employment Development Department, Monthly Data Reports

Education: According to the California Department of Education, the students in Alameda County continue to show improvement in their educational achievements. **The Four-Year Adjusted Graduation rate among Alameda County high school cohorts in the 2019-20 academic year was 87.2%, an increase of 1.5% from the 2015-2016 academic year’s rate of 85.7%.**

Graduation rates are 94.9% for Asians, 92.7% for Filipinos, 91.3% for Whites, 90.1% for two or more races, 86.2% for Pacific Islanders, 81% of Latinx, 79.8% for Black/African Americans, and 77.3% for American Indian or Alaskan Native students.

The Four-Year Adjusted Graduation rate for Oakland Unified School District high school cohorts in the 2019-20 academic year is 72.1%, an increase of 7.2% from the 2015-2016 academic year’s rate of 64.9%. **Latinx students comprise 43.5 % (839) of graduates. However, Latinx students have the highest drop-out rate at 18.9%, compared to only 3.7% of their Asian peers.**

Black/African American students represent 25.9% of graduates and have a drop -out rate of 7.4%, similar to that of Whites at 7.1%. English language learners have one of the highest drop-

out rates at 25%, compared to 6.6% of non- English language learners. Overall, Oakland's dropout rate fell from 20.3% in 2015-16 to 12.5% in 2019-20.

Child Care: Finding affordable high quality child care in Alameda County is very difficult and beyond the reach even for low -income families who receive a subsidy to pay for care. According to the Alameda County Early Care and Education program, more than 115,000 Alameda County children lack access to formal child care and early education. Only **31%** of Alameda County children with working parents have a licensed child care and early education space available to them. **Estimates are that full time child care or preschool in Alameda County costs an average of \$23,000 per year.** In Oakland, only 23% of families eligible for subsidized child care are receiving a subsidy.

The COVID-19 crisis has taken a toll on child care in Oakland and Alameda County. **As of December 2020, 69% of family child care providers and 60% of centers were open in Alameda County.** The resulting permanent closures could impact the cost of child care if centers and providers are in higher demand in the future, further driving up costs.

Health Coverage: The 2015-2019 ACS reports that 30.4% (503,762) of the population in Alameda County receive public health insurance coverage via Medicare, Medicaid, or VA health care coverage alone or in combination with other coverage. Just over 40% (203,919) of them are seniors 65 years and older. **The 2015-19 ACS report also shows that 4.3% (71,424) of the County residents are uninsured.** Fortunately, nearly 99% of all seniors in Alameda County have health insurance coverage.

In Oakland, 37.9% (160,515) of the residents receive public health insurance coverage from Medicare, Medicaid, and/or VA health care and 26.6% (42,779) of them are seniors 65 years and older. The uninsured account for 7.9% (33,417) of Oakland residents and 1.8% (578) are seniors 65 years and older.

Food Security: According to the California Department of Education, 41.7% of Alameda County students and 71.6% of Oakland students qualified for free or reduced- price lunch in the 2019-20 school year. In March of 2021, the Alameda County Social Services Agency reported that there were 130,750 individuals receiving CalFresh (SNAP), 47% (62,147) of whom reside in Oakland. **The number of individuals receiving CalFresh increased by 14.5% between February of 2020 and February of 2021.**

According to Feeding America, almost 11% of Alameda County residents were food insecure in March of 2021, a 2.5% increase from 2019. The Alameda County Community Food Bank (ACCFB), reports that it serves **1 out of every 4 Alameda County residents.** Prior to the pandemic, ACCFB distributed 380,000 meals a week through its network of 275 nonprofit agencies throughout Alameda County. However, they now provide food for approximately 1 million meals per week and they expect to provide 53 million pounds of food this year –64 percent more than the last full fiscal year before COVID.

Affordable Housing: The 2021 Fair Market Rate (FMR) for a two-bedroom unit in Alameda County is \$2,383 per month, which is a 13.3% increase over 2016 FMR of \$2,103. Once housing costs exceed 30% of a household's total income, the household is considered to be cost-burdened.

Therefore, the wage needed to rent an average two-bedroom housing unit in Alameda County is \$45.67 per hour or approximately \$95,000 a year. **The 2015-2019 ACS reports that 47.5% of renters in Alameda County and 49% of renters in Oakland are rent burdened.** Gentrification is also taking a toll, nearly one-third of low-income neighborhoods in Oakland experienced gentrification between 2013 and 2017.

Unhoused Population: The high cost of living and escalating rents in the county, as the result of gentrification with an inadequate supply of affordable housing, have contributed to an increase in the number of people experiencing homelessness. **The 2019 EveryOne Counts Point in Time count and survey estimated that 8,022 individuals were homeless in Alameda County, a 29% increase from 2017.** Veterans accounted for 9% of the homeless people counted, 14% identified as LGBTQ+ and, 14% of respondents reported a history in foster care. The majority of respondents were aged 25-59 (73%) and 14% were over the age of 60. Overall, 731 were unaccompanied youth and young adults (aged 18-24), 80% of those youth were unsheltered.

The EveryOne Counts Point in Time Count in 2019 revealed that just over **4,000** people were experiencing homelessness in Oakland. Seventy percent (70%) of the people counted in Oakland were Black/ African American, 13% Latinx, 13% Other, 11% White and 1% Asian. Veterans accounted for 15% of the homeless people counted. Nearly **four out of five** (79%) are unsheltered and live outdoors or in tents or vehicles, often along the city's streets and in parks. These numbers represent an unprecedented **47%** increase in total homelessness in Oakland, and a **63%** increase in unsheltered homelessness since 2017. Families are also impacted, where, in 2019 on any given night in Oakland, the city estimated **120 families** are living on the streets or in their cars. According to data reported to the state by school districts, 4,289 Alameda County students (1.9%) were categorized as homeless in 2017-18.

Public Safety: According to the State of California Department of Justice (DOJ), Alameda County had **10,580 violent offenses** in 2019, including 96 homicides, 702 forcible rapes, 4,916 robberies, and 4,020 aggravated assaults. There were 5,944 domestic violence related calls, a reduction from 6,137 in 2018. The jurisdictions reporting the highest number of violent crimes were Oakland (5,520), Berkeley (618), Hayward (552), and San Leandro (452). Juvenile felony arrests fell to 657 and misdemeanors to 472, ten-year lows.

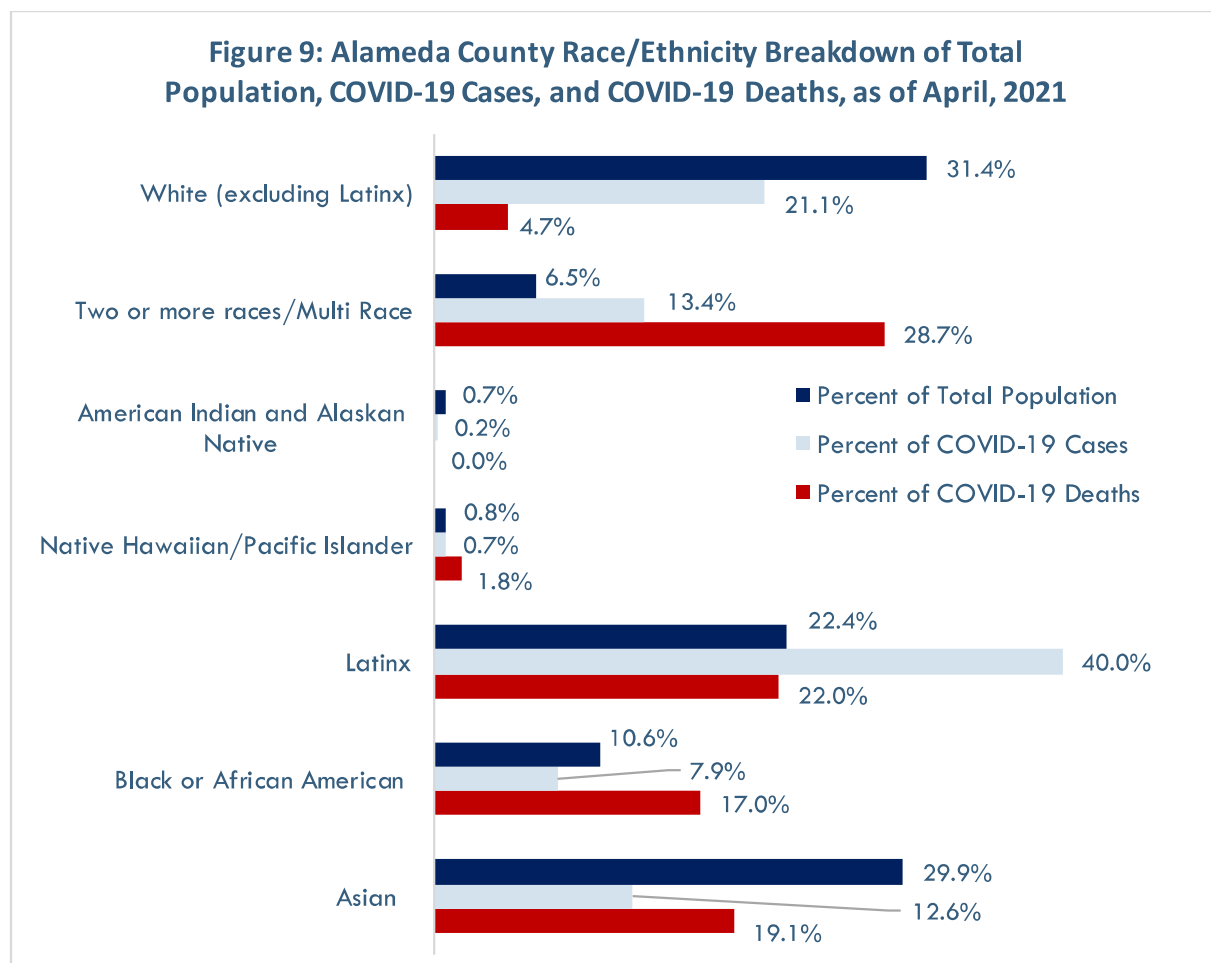
In Oakland, gun violence **fell 50%** between 2014 to 2018 and homicides decreased from a peak of 126 murders in 2011 to a total of 75 in 2019. However, homicides increased **36%** from 75 in 2019 to 102 in 2020. Overall, violent crimes in Oakland increased from 5,831 in 2019 to 5,937 in 2020. Shootings increased **72%**, from 287 in 2019 to 495 in 2020.

The Bay Area has not been immune to racially motivated attacks on APPI community members. The Stop APPI Hate self-reporting center found that **708** hate crime incidents directed toward AAPI people took place in the Bay Area over the past year, 55 in Oakland.

Equity: In 2018, the City of Oakland released the Oakland Equity Indicators Report. The purpose is to develop a baseline quantitative framework to better understand the impacts of race, measure inequities, and track changes in the disparities for different groups. The report features 72 indicators across six themes: Economy, Education, Public Health, Housing, Public Safety and Neighborhood and Civic Life. **Oakland's 2018 Citywide Equity score was 33.5 (out of 100).**

Lowest scoring areas include education, public health, housing and public safety. These areas of concern are reflected in the results of this year's AC-OCAP Community Survey.

Impact of COVID-19 Pandemic: In Alameda County, Oakland is the epicenter of the COVID-19 crisis, comprising of almost **32%** of all cases in the county as of April, 2021. The reasons for this disparity are the high numbers of essential workers living in neighborhoods who do not have the option of working from home, exacerbated by crowded living conditions and lack of paid sick leave. The economic and health toll on these communities is devastating, as seen in the figure below. Alameda County is now in the state's orange tier for COVID-19 restrictions, which allows more re-openings to occur. The pace of vaccinations has been steady with approximately **730,000 (44%)** of the county's population receiving at least one dose as of April, 2021. However, it is expected that the lowest earners will continue to bear the brunt of the health and economic fallout from the COVID-19 crisis.



Source: Alameda County Public Health Department, COVID-19 Data Dashboard

Data Sources

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22. Alameda County Public Health Department, COVID-19 Data Dashboard, <https://covid-19.acgov.org/data>

ⁱ Definition of the U.S. Census use of some other race: Includes all responses not included in the "White", "Black or African American", "American Indian and Alaska Native", "Asian" and "Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander" race categories. Respondents providing write-in entries such as multiracial, mixed, interracial, We-Sort, or a Hispanic/Latino group (for example, Mexican, Puerto Rican, or Cuban) in the "Some other race" category are included.

ⁱⁱ Definition of the U.S. Census use of two or more races: People may choose to provide two or more races either by checking two or more race response check boxes, by providing multiple responses, or by some combination of checkboxes and other responses. For data product purposes, "Two or More Races" refers to combinations of two or more of the following race categories: "White," "Black or African American," American Indian or Alaska Native," "Asian," Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander," or "Some Other Race"