

Bay Area Equity Atlas

The State of Equity in Contra Costa County

June 23, 2020

Presentation to the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors
by Sarah Treuhaft, Managing Director, PolicyLink

OVERVIEW

What is Equity?

- Equity is just and fair inclusion into a society in which all can participate, prosper, and reach their full potential.
- Achieving equity requires dismantling structural racism and systemic barriers and proactively working to ensure that each individual's circumstances provides them with the optimal opportunity to thrive.

OVERVIEW

What Is the Bay Area Equity Atlas?

A comprehensive data support system to track the state of equity across the region and equip community leaders with data to inform solutions for inclusive prosperity.

- 21 Equity Metrics for 272 Geographies
- Policy Solutions
- Research/Analysis
- Training
- Data Support for Campaigns

HOW IS CONTRA COSTA DOING?



OVERVIEW

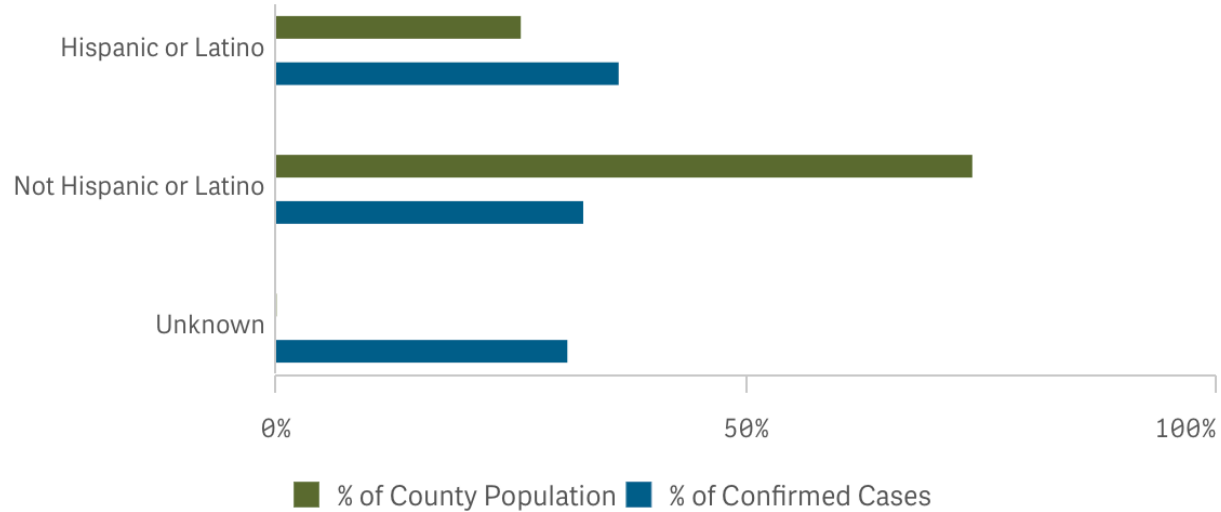
How is Contra Costa Doing?

- Rapidly diversifying population
- Overall improvements over past decade, but an increase in vulnerable populations & risks
- Economic insecurity & significant racial inequities
- The pandemic is exacerbating underlying vulnerabilities & racial inequities

HEALTH INEQUITIES

Latinx Residents Disproportionately Infected

Percent of Cases by Ethnicity

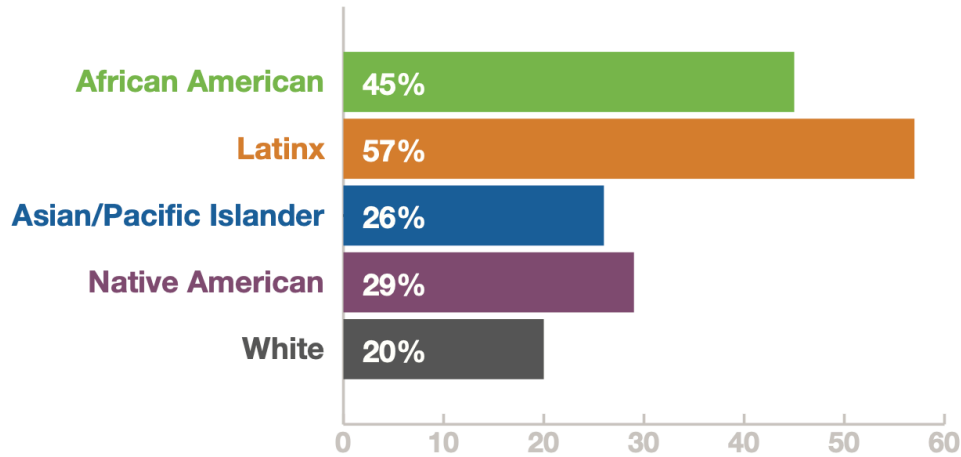


Percent of confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Contra Costa by ethnicity versus county population by ethnicity. Includes recovered.

BASIC FAMILY NEEDS

45% of Black and 57% of Latinx Households Financially Precarious Before the Pandemic

Households that Fall Below the Standard, by Race:

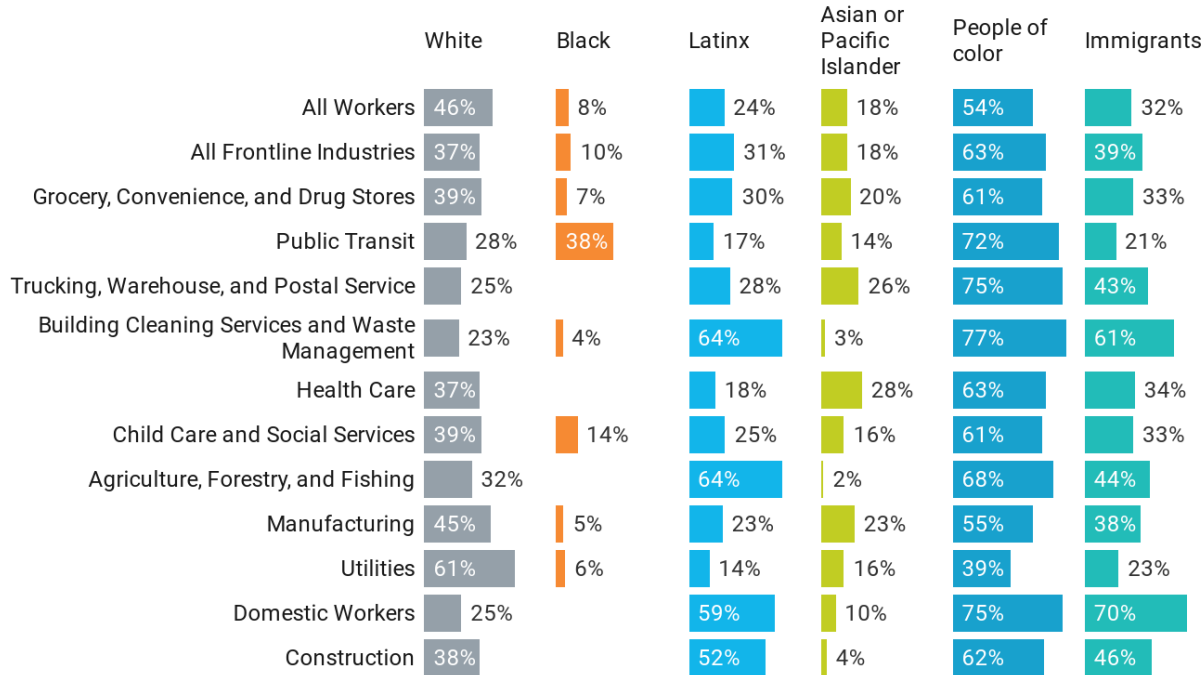


Basic Needs Budget

- 1 adult: **\$44,112**
- 1 adult, 1 preschooler: **\$85,602**
- 2 adults, 1 school-aged child, 1 preschooler: **\$102,877**

UNEQUAL HEALTH RISKS

Contra Costa's Latinx, Black, and Immigrant Residents Disproportionately Work in Frontline Industries

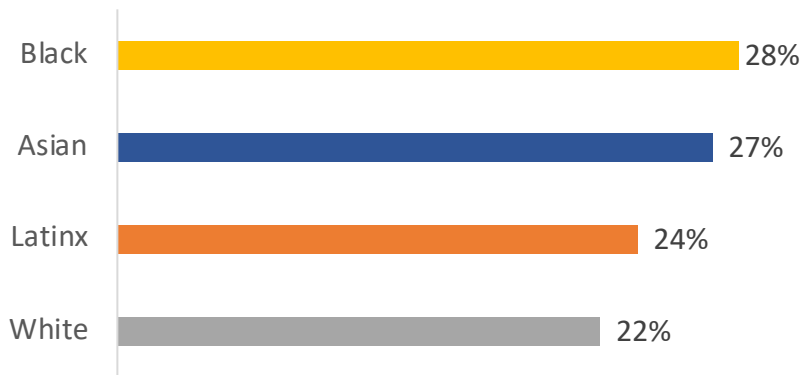


UNEQUAL ECONOMIC IMPACTS

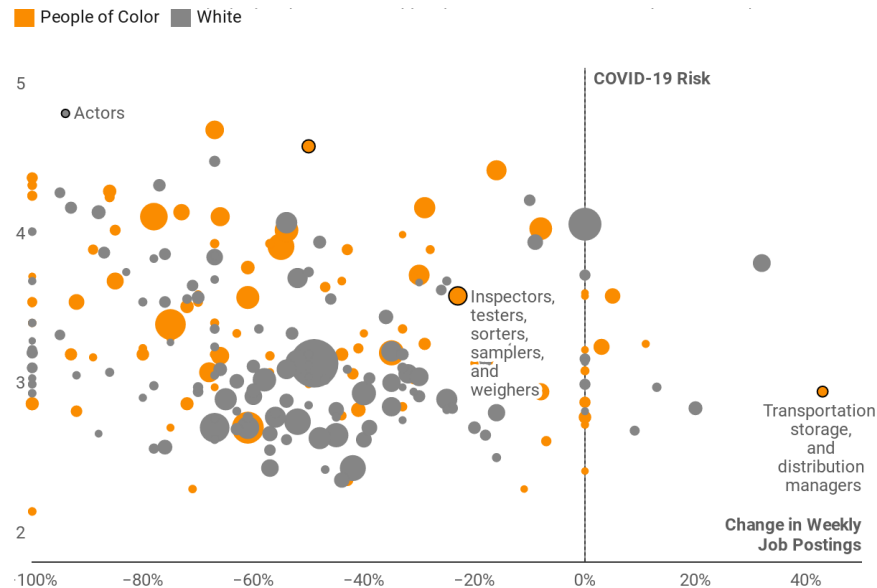
Bay Area Workers of Color Hit Harder by Coronavirus Shock

14.5% Unemployment rate, Contra Costa County April 2020 (vs. 3.1% Feb 2020)

UI Claims as a Share of the Labor Force, California, Mar 15-May 30, 2020



Job postings in the Bay Area declined most dramatically for the non-essential jobs disproportionately held by workers of color.



ECONOMIC BENEFITS OF EQUITY

Equity Is A Moral and Economic Imperative

Estimated benefits of equity in Contra Costa County:

\$15b

Potential increase in total economic output per year with racial equity in income

\$8,800

Increase in disposable income for lower-income Black renters per year if rent was affordable

\$18b

Contribution of immigrants to the local economy per year

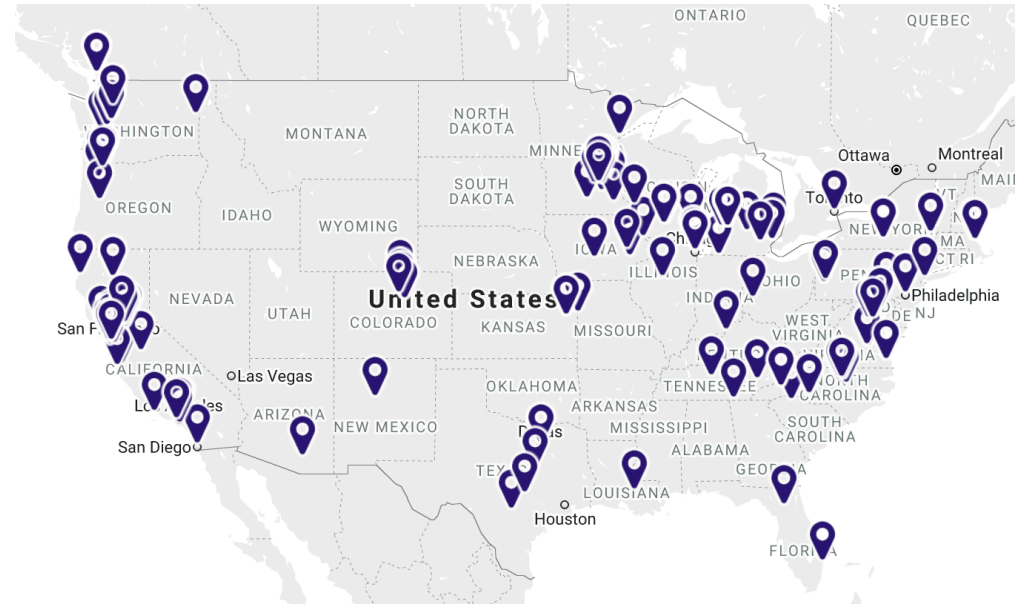
Source: Bay Area Equity Atlas [Economic gains: Racial equity in income](#); [Economic gains: Eliminate rent burden](#); [New Americans in Contra Costa County](#)

ADVANCING EQUITY

A Growing Movement for Equity in Local Government

- Since Seattle established the first citywide equity initiative in 2015 hundreds of city and county governments have launched dedicated equity initiatives
- They are adopting [racial equity impact assessments](#), establishing Offices of Equity, hiring [Chief Equity Officers](#), and shifting policies and resources to advance racial equity

Members of the Government Alliance on Race and Equity



Budgets Are Crucial Equity Tools

“This moment calls for extraordinary investments in health, housing, education, jobs, and social services, not austerity measures or investments that diminish our communities rather than strengthen them. Decision makers can create more opportunity and safety for Black people and all people by prioritizing these investments and targeting them to the most vulnerable communities. Budget justice is essential for racial justice, and for finally creating a society in which Black Lives Matter.”

-Marc Philpart and Chione L. Flegal, PolicyLink

Bay Area Equity Atlas

Thank you!

Explore more data about our region on the Bay Area Equity Atlas at:
<http://bayareaequityatlas.org>

Questions? Contact us at: sarah@policylink.org