Bay Area Equity Atlas

Advancing Equitable Recovery in Contra Costa County

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Family Economic Security Partnership

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SFF San Francisco Foundation

USCDornsife Equity Research Institute

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OVERVIEW

An equitable recovery requires bold, targeted solutions

- The Covid recession is extremely unequal: Contra Costa's low-wage workers and communities of color have been the hardest hit and face major obstacles to recovery.
- For an equitable recovery, we must:
  - Protect and stabilize vulnerable households and workers;
  - Connect low-wage workers with economic opportunities;
  - "Build back better" through equitable investments in a stronger, fairer, more sustainable economy.

HEALTH IMPACT

The county's communities of color have suffered disproportionately from Covid-19

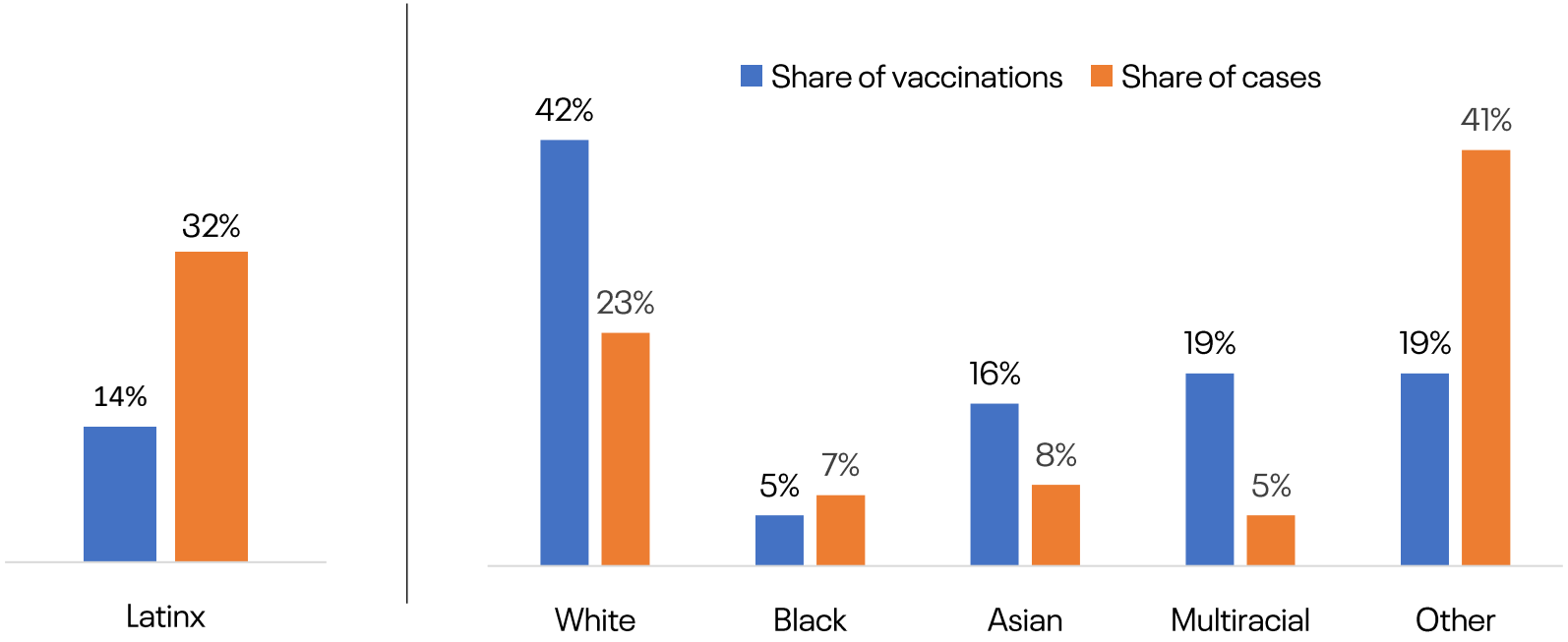
Covid-19 cases and deaths relative to the White population: Contra Costa County, December 2020

	African-American	Latino	Asian
Cases	2.5x	6.0x	1.4x
Deaths	1.3x	1.7x	0.9x

Source: Contra Costa County COVID-19 Coordinating Body: December 19, 2020 Equity Presentation Summary.

HEALTH IMPACT

Vaccine distribution raises racial equity concerns



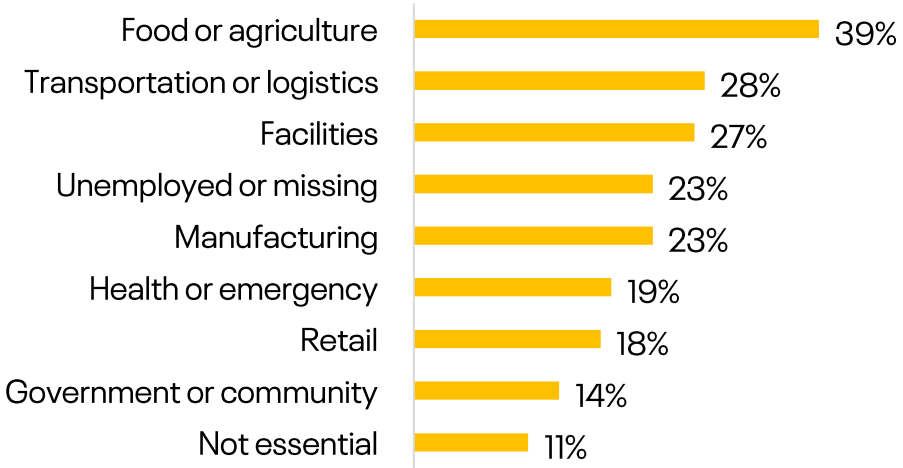
Source: Bay Area Equity Atlas analysis of data from the Contra Costa County Public Health Department.

HEALTH IMPACT

People of color & immigrants are disproportionately essential workers and more exposed to Covid risk

- Essential workers have experienced more deaths from Covid-19
- In Contra Costa county, workers of color, Latinxs, and immigrants are concentrated in essential jobs
- The county's Latinx and immigrant workers disproportionately work in food, agriculture, and facilities

Excess mortality among working-age adults: California, Mar - Oct 2020

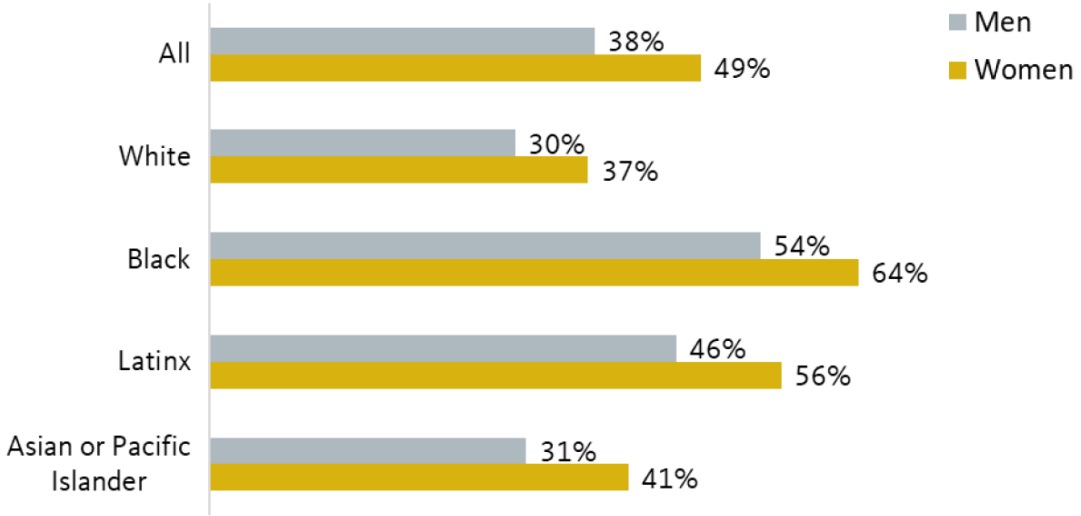


Sources: Yea-Hung Chen et al., Excess mortality associated with the COVID-19 pandemic among Californians 18-65 years of age by occupational sector and occupation: March through October 2020, and Bay Area Equity Atlas Profile of Frontline Workers in the Bay Area.

Renters of color were already facing a housing crisis

- The majority of the county's Black, Latinx, and immigrant residents rent
- Most Black and Latinx renters, especially women, were already economically insecure and rent-burdened before the pandemic

Share of renter households that have low incomes and are rent-burdened: Contra Costa County, 2018



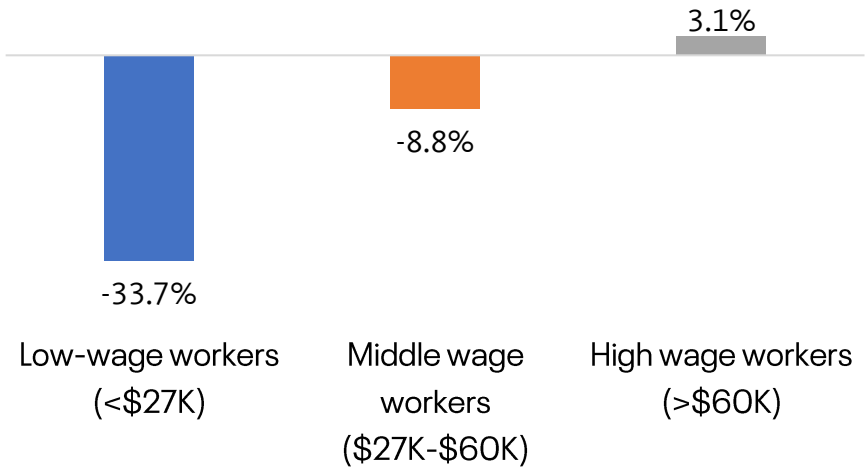
Source: Bay Area Equity Atlas of 2018 5-Year data from the American Community Survey. Low-income is below 350 percent of the Federal Poverty Line (about $87,000 for a family of four or $44,000 for one person). Rent-burdened is paying more than 30% of income on rent and utilities.

ECONOMIC IMPACT

Low-wage, Black, Latinx, women workers hardest hit by job and income losses

- 13,800 workers left the county's labor force in 2020
- 248,352 workers filed for unemployment March - December
- Low-wage workers have disproportionately lost their jobs
- Latinx & Black workers face higher unemployment

Percent change in employment by worker wage Level: Contra Costa County, Jan - Nov, 2020



Sources: Bay Area Equity Atlas analysis of employment data from the CA Employment Development Department and data on employment change by worker wages from Opportunity Insights' Economic Tracker.

HOUSING IMPACT

Job and income loss during the pandemic is driving eviction risk and rent debt

11,200

Contra Costa county households behind on rent in late March

$58.8m

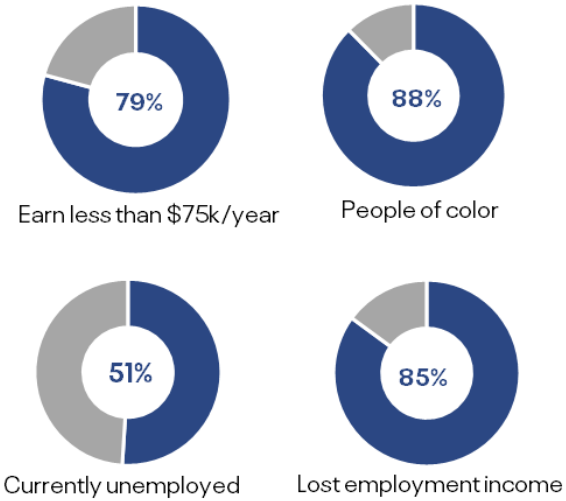
Estimated rent debt in the county, approximately $5,233 per behind household

Sources: Bay Area Equity Atlas analysis of Census Household Pulse Survey (Table: Last month's payment status for renters) and American Community Survey data on rent by household income.

Low-wage workers and families of color face mounting debt

- The vast majority of renters behind on rent are low-income, Covid-impacted, and renters of color
- Most low-income renters are current on rent, but many are relying on credit cards and borrowing from family and friends to meet household needs

Characteristics of renters with rent debt: 5-County Bay Area, Feb 2021 – Mar 2021



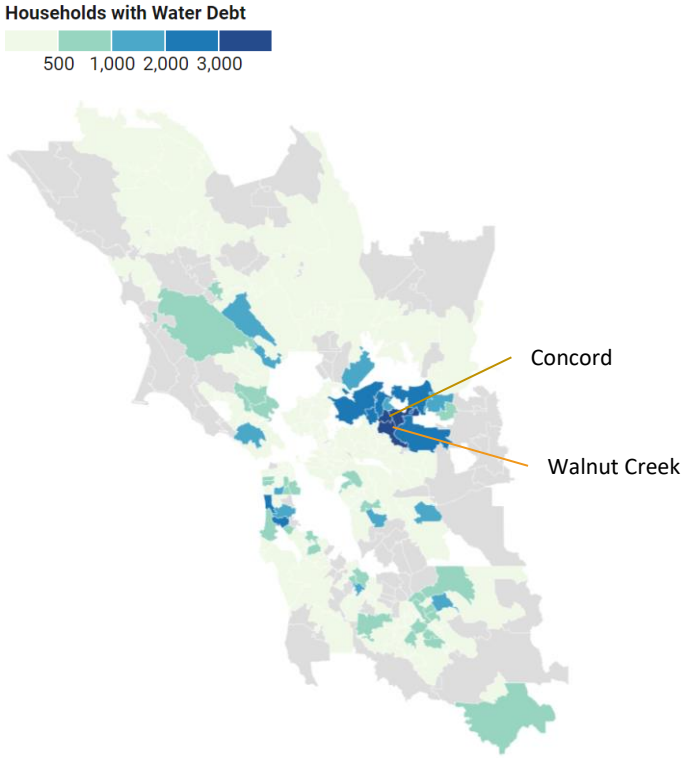
Source: Census Household Pulse Survey data last month's rent payment for the San Francisco-Oakland-Berkeley, CA Metro Area. The data reflects average responses across three surveys to improve accuracy.

ECONOMIC IMPACT

Rent debt is not the only debt

- Contra Costa has the most water debt among Bay Area counties
- 30,600 Contra Costa County households have water debt of $5.8 million+
- 600+ households with over $1,000 in water debt

Households with water debt, by zip code



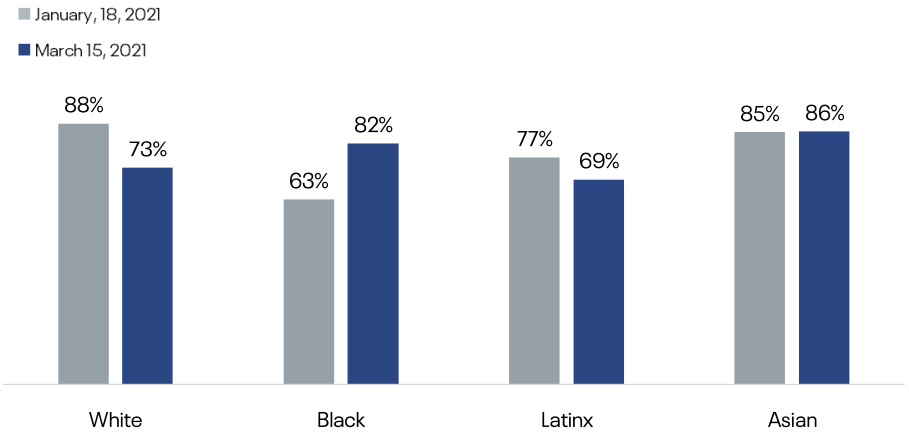
Source: Bay Area Equity Atlas analysis of the California Water Board's Drinking Water COVID-19 Financial Impacts Survey.

EDUCATION IMPACT

Consistent access to online education is uneven due to the persistent digital divide

- Only 7 in 10 Latinx students always have Internet access

Share of households with school children that always have Internet available at home by race/ethnicity: 5-County Bay Area, Nov 2020 - Jan 2021 and Feb 2021 - Mar 2021



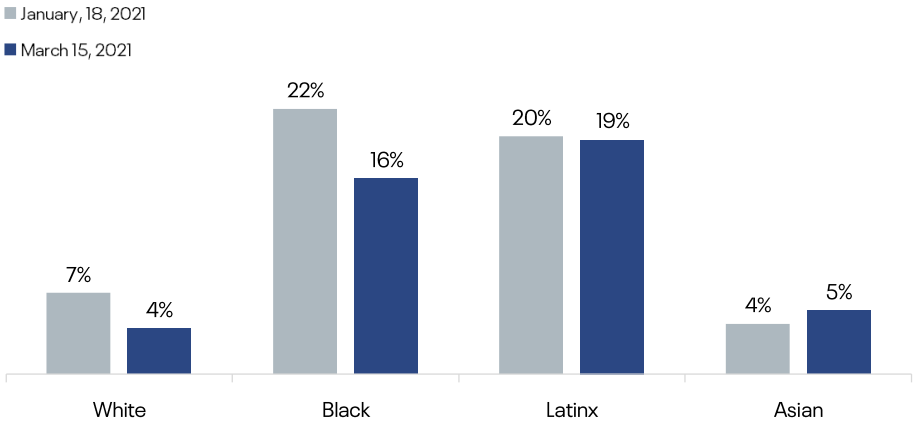
Source: Census Household Pulse Survey data (Table 3) on internet availability ("always available") in households with children in public or private school for the San Francisco-Oakland-Berkeley, CA Metro Area. The data reflects average responses across three surveys to improve accuracy. The mixed/other racial and ethnic category has been excluded due to small sample size.

HEALTH IMPACT

Black and Latinx residents are disproportionately experiencing food insecurity

- Black and Latinx adults are most likely to be food insecure
- Households with children experience greater food insecurity

Share of adults who sometimes or often did not have enough to eat in the past week: 5-County Bay Area, Nov 2020 - Jan 2021 and Feb 2021 - Mar 2021



Source: Census Household Pulse Survey data food sufficiency for households in the last 7 days for the San Francisco-Oakland-Berkeley, CA Metro Area. The data reflects average responses across three surveys to improve accuracy. The mixed/other racial and ethnic category has been excluded due to small sample size.

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: jamila@policylink.org

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