

SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY:

# OUR COMMUNITY VITAL SIGNS



## SUMMARY OF KEY FINDINGS

# 2020 COMMUNITY HEALTH STATUS DATA REPORT





# ***Summary of Key Findings:*** ***2020 Community Health Status Assessment Report - Data Report***



## **Introduction**

Welcome to the Summary of Key Findings from the 2020 Community Health Status Assessment – Data Report. This summary presents findings from a community collaborative process to assess the health status and well-being of San Bernardino County (SBC) residents. In 2019, the SBC Community Vital Signs Initiative (Vital Signs) conducted a community health status assessment to examine health trends and understand the most pressing health issues facing our county residents. Findings from the assessment will help Vital Signs develop community priorities and strategies for implementation. These will be incorporated into the San Bernardino County Community Transformation Plan, our county's community health improvement plan (CTP). This plan will help guide community action.

## **What is a Community Health Status Assessment?**

It is a community collaborative process that uses the collection of data to describe a population and its community characteristics, and most importantly it identifies community health needs and issues. The goal of the Community Health Status Assessment is to answer the questions, "What is the health status of the residents of SBC?" Issues identified by the community are prioritized by local and regional leaders from multiple organizations and disciplines, and then addressed in the updated CTP.

## **What We Did—Community Engagement**

In leading the assessment, Vital Signs conducted community engagements to share key data on a variety of health and social topics. In these meetings, Vital Signs gathered community feedback on what community members felt were pressing issues that needed to be prioritized and addressed by the Vital Signs Initiative. Vital Signs conducted 17 meetings with community stakeholders and residents throughout all the regions of the county. During these meetings, community members completed a health survey on topics of health, social needs and quality of life; over 1,600 surveys were successfully completed. This gave Vital Signs the primary data it needed to analyze the needs and issues of the community, which will then be used to formulate a set of goals and strategies to improve the health of our SBC residents.





## Total Population

According to the United States Census Bureau, the total population of San Bernardino County has grown over 2% from an estimated 2.13 million in 2015 to an estimated 2.18 million in 2019.

- The Latino population in SBC is steadily rising and has experienced an increase of 2% from 2015 to 2019.
- Non-Hispanic White population decreased nearly 3% from 2015 to 2019.
- In 2019:
  - 54% of the population was Latino
  - 27% was non-Hispanic White
  - 8% was African American and
  - 7% was Asian.
- Overall, SBC had a higher percentage of Latinos and African Americans compared to California.

## Age Distribution

- The 65+ population increased 14% from 2015 to 2019.
- In 2019:
  - 26% of the population was ages 0-17
  - 62% was ages 18-64 and
  - 12% was ages 65+.

## Primary Language Spoken at Home

- In 2019, English was the primary language spoken at home for 57% of the population over 5 years old.
- Among the remaining who spoke another primary language, Spanish was the second most at 36%.

# Education

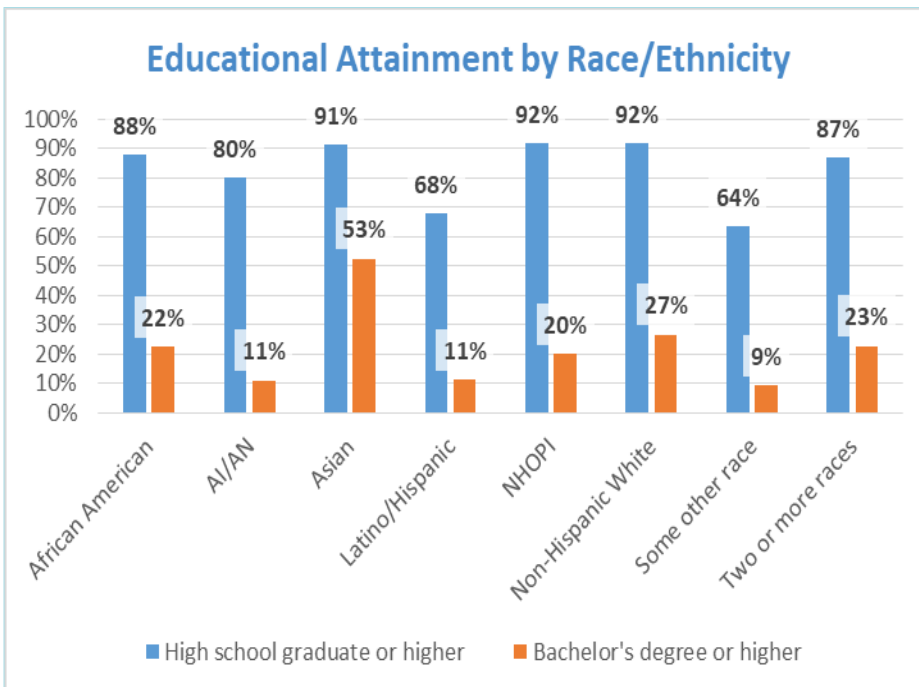
## Educational Attainment

Educational attainment at all levels within the County varied by city, as well as by race and ethnicity.

- Over the past five years there has been an increase in the percentage of people with a bachelor's degree.
- While 23% of adults in SBC have a bachelor's degree or higher, this is well below California's 35%.

## High School Graduation Rates

San Bernardino County saw nearly a two percent increase in high school graduation rates from 83% in 2015-2016 to 85% in 2018-2019, surpassing both the State's overall graduation rate and the federal Healthy People 2020 objective.



## College Readiness

The number of local high school graduates who are college ready, or qualify for entry into a University of California or California State University, has steadily increased over the years.

- In San Bernardino County, college readiness rose from 41% in the 2016-2017 school year to 47% in the 2019-2020 school year.
- San Bernardino County still remains below the State's college readiness of 51%.

# Economy

## Poverty

In 2019, poverty rates in San Bernardino County were above California and the United States.

- San Bernardino County 13%
- California 12%
- U.S. 12%

Within the San Bernardino County, the cities with the highest percentage of people living in poverty were:

- San Bernardino 26%
- Adelanto 29%
- Barstow 35%



## Unemployment Rate

Based on the eligible workforce, the unemployment rate for San Bernardino County decreased by nearly half from 10% in 2015 to 6% in 2019. However, the unemployment rate remains higher in the County than both California and the United States at 5%.

## Affordable Housing

San Bernardino County residents spending more than 30% of their income on housing has declined from 44% in 2015 to 40% in 2019. However, rent prices have steadily increased in the county. For example, the median monthly rent for a two-bedroom apartment rose from \$1,153 in 2015 to \$1,335 in 2019.

# Access to Healthcare

## Health Insurance Coverage

The percentage of insured SBC residents in 2019 were:

- 96% among those under age 19
- 86% among ages 19-34 and
- 88% among ages 35-64.

In 2019, 9% of San Bernardino County residents were uninsured, which is on par with the U.S.'s 9% but higher than California's 8%.



## Access to Health Professionals

- The number of San Bernardino County residents who had a usual source of care slightly increased from 84% in 2015 to 85% in 2019.
- Thus, there are approximately 5 licensed physicians/surgeons for every 2,500 residents in San Bernardino County.
- In 2019, 15% of San Bernardino County residents delayed or did not get medical care in the past year.

## Oral Health

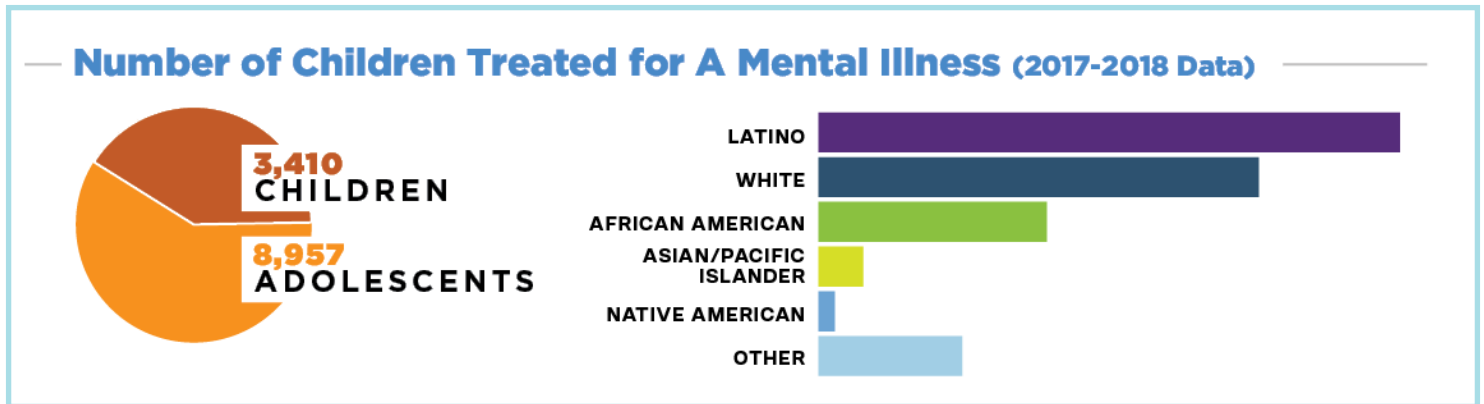
Oral health is a critical component of overall health for all ages, from infants to adults, because it impacts the ability to communicate effectively at school and work and to maintain a healthy diet.

- There are about 2,600 residents per dentist in San Bernardino County, which is above that of the State average at 1,900 residents per dentist).
- More than 30% of high-risk children ages 0-5 suffer from untreated tooth decay.

## Mental Health

The number of clients in San Bernardino County receiving county mental health services fell in 2016/2017 and continued to fall in 2017/2018.

- Overall, 41% of clients served in 2017/18 were children and youth.
- Among those served, 41% were Latino and 31% were White.



## Cardiovascular Disease

Currently in the U.S., more than 1 in 3 adults live with cardiovascular disease, which includes arterial disease, high blood pressure, cardiac arrest and arrhythmia. According to Healthy People 2020, cardiovascular disease causes serious illness and disability, decreases quality of life and is responsible for hundreds of billions of dollars in annual economic loss.

- The percent of San Bernardino County residents diagnosed with cardiovascular disease increased from 7% in 2015 to 8% in 2019.

## Sexually Transmitted Diseases

San Bernardino County has experienced an increase in Sexually Transmitted Disease (STD) infections, including primary/secondary syphilis, gonorrhea and chlamydia.

- In San Bernardino County, the rates of primary and secondary syphilis per 100,000 people rose from 13 in 2015 to 19 in 2019.
- Gonorrhea rates per 100,000 increased from about 130 in 2015 to about 180 in 2019.
- Chlamydia rates per 100,000 were 612 in 2018, up from 517 in 2015.

# Environment



## Access to Healthy Foods

- In 2015, there were about 7 times as many fast food/convenience stores as supermarkets in SBC. In 2018, this grew to almost 9 times as many.
- This ratio marks a greater presence of fast food/convenience store locations in SBC and was higher than that of the State and the U.S.
- In 2015, 21% of the population in SBC – more than 433,000 people – lived in areas with low access to healthy food retailers, nearly double of California's 12%.

# Community Safety



## Property Crime

Property crime can impact a person's ability to feel safe, causing stress, fear, poor mental health and lack of outdoor exercise.

- In San Bernardino County, the rate of property crime per 100,000 people decreased from about 2,700 crimes in 2015 to about 2,200 crimes in 2019.
- This 18.4% decrease in property crime rate places San Bernardino County lower than the State rate.

## Violent Crime

Violent crime rates include cases in which an offender or perpetrator used force upon another person.

- The rate of violent crime in San Bernardino County increased by 26% from 2015 to 2019 and has consistently been higher than the State rate.
- The cities that experienced the greatest number of violent crime incidents in 2019 were San Bernardino, Victorville and Fontana.

## Traffic Collisions

Transportation and transportation safety are essential to maintaining a strong, vibrant San Bernardino County. Residents need safe roads for driving and access to work and services.

- In San Bernardino County, the overall number of collisions increased by around 5% from 2015 to 2017, and the number of fatalities in that same period increased about 28%
- In 2017, 57% of all collisions had occurred on local streets and 48% of fatal collisions on local roads.
- In 2017, there were 336 fatalities in San Bernardino County.

# What the Community Said Needed to be Addressed

## Top 8 Community Health Problems

1. Mental Health
2. Obesity/overweight
3. Smoking/vaping
4. Poor nutrition/diet
5. Diabetes
6. Low physical activity
7. Suicide
8. Delays in access to care

## Top 8 Community Social Problems

1. Homelessness
2. Housing costs
3. Poverty
4. Unemployment/underemployment
5. Domestic violence
6. Gun violence
7. Property crime
8. Violent crime

## Areas of Needs and Concerns Voiced by the Community

- "Not enough mental health crisis centers and convenient hours"
- "Need more youth resources/activities"
- "Need space for exercise and active recreation"
- "Need more access to healthy foods and stores"
- "Not enough affordable housing"
- "There is too much crime—community doesn't feel safe"
- "Lack of Transportation Access"
- "Better paying jobs—living wages"
- "Economy and poverty is bad"



## Learning More

### Where can I read the full report from the community health status assessment?

The 2020 Community Health Status Assessment Report - Data Report is available online at:

<https://communityvitalsigns.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/19/2021/03/2020-Community-Health-Status-Digital-Report.pdf>

### How can I get involved?

To join the Community Vital Signs Initiative and its collective efforts to improve community health outcomes, contact us at:

[CommunityVitalSigns.SanBernardinoCounty@dph.sbcounty.gov](mailto:CommunityVitalSigns.SanBernardinoCounty@dph.sbcounty.gov)

**Join us in creating a Culture of Health for the County of San Bernardino!**