



South Coast Air Quality Management District

South Coast
AQMD 21865 Copley Drive, Diamond Bar, CA 91765-4178
(909) 396-2000 • www.aqmd.gov

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE ADVISORY GROUP

Advisory Group Members

Senator Vanessa Delgado (Ret.), Chair (Board Member)
Supervisor Janice Rutherford, Vice Chair (Board Member)
Councilmember, Ben Benoit, City of Wildomar (Board Member)

Rhetta Alexander	Dr. Monique Hernandez
Manuel Arredondo	Dr. Jill Johnston
Dr. Lawrence Beeson	Evelyn Knight
Suzanne Bilodeau	Humberto Lugo
Paul Choe	David McNeill
Kerry Doi	Daniel Morales
Mary Figueroa	Donald Smith
Dr. Afif El-Hasan	Rafael Yanez

Friday, August 28, 2020 ♦ 12:00 p.m.

Pursuant to Governor Newsom's Executive Order N-25-20, (March 12, 2020) and N-29-20 (March 17, 2020), South Coast AQMD's Environment Justice Advisory Group (EJAG) Meeting will only be conducted via video conferencing and by telephone. Please follow the instructions below to join the webinar meeting remotely.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR ELECTRONIC PARTICIPATION AT BOTTOM OF AGENDA

Join Zoom Webinar Meeting - from PC or Laptop

<https://scaqmd.zoom.us/j/92579947526>

Zoom Webinar ID: 925 7994 7526 (applies to all)

Teleconference Dial In

+1 669 900 6833

One tap mobile

+16699006833, 92579947526#

Audience will be allowed to provide public comment through telephone or Zoom connection during public comment period.

PUBLIC COMMENT WILL STILL BE TAKEN

AGENDA

Members of the public may address this body concerning any agenda item before or during consideration of that item (Gov't. Code Section 54954.3(a)). If you wish to speak, raise your hand on Zoom or press Star 9 if participating by telephone. All agendas for regular meetings are posted at South Coast AQMD Headquarters, 21865 Copley Drive, Diamond Bar, California, at least 72 hours in advance of the regular meeting. Speakers may be limited to three (3) minutes each.

CALL TO ORDER

ACTION ITEMS (Items 1 through 3):

1. Call to Order/Opening Remarks
(*No Motion Required*)
Senator Vanessa Delgado (Ret.)
Chair
2. Approval of January 24, 2020 Meeting Minutes
(*Motion Required*)
[Attachment 1]
Senator Vanessa Delgado (Ret.)
pgs. 4-8
3. Review of Follow-Up/Action Items
(*No Motion Required*)
Staff will review the follow-up/action items identified in the previous meeting.
Fabian R. Wesson
Assistant Deputy Executive Officer
Legislative, Public Affairs & Media

DISCUSSION ITEMS (Items 4 through 7):

4. **Small Business Assistance & Incentive Programs**
(*No Motion Required*)
A brief overview will be presented on South Coast AQMD's Small Business Assistance and Incentive Programs.
Hannea Cox
Air Quality Engineer II
Legislative, Public Affairs and Media
pgs. 9-17
5. **COVID-19 Impacts on Environmental Justice Communities Discussion**
(*No Motion Required*)
All members will discuss the challenges as a result of the COVID-19 virus pandemic, and the impacts on their community including resources made available and lessons learned.
Monique Hernandez, PhD
EJAG Member
pgs. 18-40
6. **Environmental Justice Community Partnership Update**
(*No Motion Required*)
Staff will provide an update on the Environmental Justice Community Partnership.
Alicia Rodriguez
Senior Public Information Specialist
Legislative, Public Affairs & Media
pgs. 41-51
7. **Member Updates**
(*No Motion Required*)
All

OTHER MATTERS:

8. **Other Business**
Any member of this body, or its staff, on his or her own initiative or in response to questions posed by the public, may ask a question for clarification, may make a brief announcement or report on his or her own activities, provide a reference to staff regarding factual information, request staff to report back at a subsequent meeting concerning any matter, or may take action to direct staff to place a matter of business on a future agenda. (Govt. Code Section 54954.2)
9. **Public Comment Period**
At the end of the regular meeting agenda, an opportunity is provided for the public to speak on any subject within the Committee's authority that is not on the agenda. Speakers may be limited to three (3) minutes each.
10. **Next Meeting Date** – October 23, 2020

ADJOURNMENT

Document Availability

All documents (i) constituting non-exempt public records, (ii) relating to an item on an agenda for a regular meeting, and (iii) having been distributed to at least a majority of the Committee after the agenda is posted, are available by contacting Jeanette Short at (909) 396-2942, or send the request to jshort1@aqmd.gov.

Americans with Disabilities Act and Language Accessibility

Disability and language-related accommodations can be requested to allow participation in the Environmental Justice Advisory Group meeting. The agenda will be made available, upon request, in appropriate alternative formats to assist persons with a disability (Gov't Code Section 54954.2(a)). In addition, other documents may be requested in alternative formats and languages. Any disability or language-related accommodation must be requested as soon as practicable. Requests will be accommodated unless providing the accommodation would result in a fundamental alteration or undue burden to the South Coast AQMD. Please contact Jeanette Short at (909) 396-2942 from 7:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Tuesday through Friday, or send the request to jshort1@aqmd.gov.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR ELECTRONIC PARTICIPATION

Instructions for Participating in a Virtual Meeting as an Attendee

As an attendee, you will have the opportunity to virtually raise your hand and provide public comment.

Before joining the call, please silence your other communication devices such as your cell or desk phone. This will prevent any feedback or interruptions during the meeting.

Please note: During the meeting, all participants will be placed on Mute by the host. You will not be able to mute or unmute your lines manually.

After each agenda item, the Chairman will announce public comment.

A countdown timer will be displayed on the screen for each public comment.

If interpretation is needed, more time will be allotted.

Once you raise your hand to provide public comment, your name will be added to the speaker list. Your name will be called when it is your turn to comment. The host will then unmute your line.

Directions for Video ZOOM on a DESKTOP/LAPTOP:

- If you would like to make a public comment, please click on the “**Raise Hand**” button on the bottom of the screen.
- This will signal to the host that you would like to provide a public comment and you will be added to the list.

Directions for Video Zoom on a SMARTPHONE:

- If you would like to make a public comment, please click on the “**Raise Hand**” button on the bottom of your screen.
- This will signal to the host that you would like to provide a public comment and you will be added to the list.

Directions for TELEPHONE line only:

- If you would like to make public comment, please **dial *9** on your keypad to signal that you would like to comment.



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[Back to Agenda](#)

DRAFT

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE ADVISORY GROUP FRIDAY, JANUARY 24, 2020 MEETING MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Senator Vanessa Delgado (Ret.), EJAG Chair (Board Member)
Rhetta Alexander, Valley Interfaith Council
Manuel Arredondo, Coachella Valley School District, Retiree
Suzanne Bilodeau, Knott's Berry Farm
Paul Choe, Korean Drycleaners & Laundry Association
Dr. Afif El-Hasan, American Lung Association
Mary Figueroa, Riverside Community College
Dr. Monique Hernandez, California State University, Los Angeles
Dr. Jill Johnston, University of Southern California
Humberto Lugo, Community Member
Daniel Morales, National Alliance for Human Rights
Rafael Yanez, Community Member
Donald Smith, 136th Street Block Club

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Council Member Ben Benoit, (Board Member)
Supervisor Janice Rutherford, EJAG Vice Chair (Board Member)
Dr. Lawrence Beeson, Loma Linda University, School of Public Health
Kerry Doi, Pacific Asian Consortium in Employment
Evelyn Knight, Long Beach Economic Development Commission
David McNeill, Baldwin Hills Conservancy

OTHERS PRESENT:

Harvey Eder, Public Solar Power Coalition

SOUTH COAST AQMD STAFF:

Jill Whynot, Chief Operating Officer
Fabian R. Wesson, Assistant Deputy Executive Officer/Public Advisor
Nancy Feldman, Principal Deputy District Counsel
Alicia A. Rodriguez, Senior Public Information Specialist
Jeanette N. Short, Senior Public Information Specialist
Brandee Keith, Secretary
Daniei Brown, Career Development Intern

Agenda Item #1: Call to Order/Opening Remarks

Ms. Fabian Wesson called the meeting to order at 12:05 p.m., and introduced the new Advisory Group Chair, Senator Vanessa Delgado.

Chair Delgado greeted the group, shared information about her professional experience, and the goals she aims to achieve as the Chair for the Environmental Justice Advisory Group (EJAG). Members also introduced themselves and shared their goals in participating in EJAG.

Agenda Item #2: Approval of October 25, 2019 Meeting Minutes

Chair Delgado called for the approval of the October 25, 2019 meeting minutes. Ms. Rhett Alexander moved to approve the minutes and Ms. Mary Figueroa seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously.

Agenda Item #3: Review of Follow-Up/Action Items

Ms. Wesson provided a response to the October 25, 2019 action items:

- **Action Item:** E-mail the Advisory Group a link to the “Estamos Aqui: A Community Documentary” two-minute trailer that was shown at the EJ Conference in 2019. The link was emailed on October 25, 2019.
- **Action Item:** Share with the EJAG members conference break-out session notes from the EJ Conference in 2019. Conference break-out session notes were available as a handout at the meeting.
- **Action Item:** Agendize community science overview. A brief overview was presented by Rafael Yanez at the meeting.

Agenda Item #4: Goals and Objectives for 2020

Ms. Wesson referred members to the Goals and Objectives included in the agenda packet and reported two additional items be added at the request of South Coast AQMD Board Member Janice Rutherford, in absentia: Item 13 – Updates on Implementation of the 2016 AQMP; and Item 14 – Update on the Development of the 2022 AQMP. Mr. Manuel Arrendondo requested to add a goal of Implementing Existing Technology in Communities. Ms. Mary Figueroa moved to approve the Goals and Objectives as amended; Dr. Jill Johnston seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #5: EJAG Accomplishments 2019

Ms. Wesson reviewed EJAG’s Accomplishments throughout 2019 and asked for comments. None were given.

Agenda Item #6: Environmental Justice Community Partnership Recap of 2019

Ms. Alicia Rodriguez provided a recap of the Environmental Justice Community Partnership (EJCP) in 2019.

Ms. Mary Figueroa asked what kind of information is provided to students in the Clean Air Ranger Education (CARE) program to take home. Ms. Alicia Rodriguez explained all students received a backpack containing a letter to parents, informational pamphlets on South Coast

AQMD programs, and coloring books. Ms. Figueroa asked if the informational pamphlets were available in Spanish, and Ms. Wesson confirmed all were.

Chair Delgado asked if the 2020 dates had been finalized for the various EJCP meetings. Ms. Rodriguez explained some dates have been finalized, however others are still being established and staff will share the dates with the EJAG members as they become available.

ACTION ITEM: Send EJCP meeting schedules as they become available to all EJAG members.

Ms. Rhett Alexander asked if the students visited by the CARE program were given the chance to ask questions, and what they were. Ms. Rodriguez confirmed students were given an opportunity to ask questions, and that many inquired about wildfires, what they as students could do to be aware of air quality, and how to help improve air quality.

Ms. Wesson shared that South Coast AQMD also has a high school program called Why Healthy Air Matters (WHAM). She offered to provide information to the EJAG members.

ACTION ITEM: Provide EJAG members information on WHAM program.

Mr. Daniel Morales asked about the environmental conditions around the schools visited in the CARE program, and if there were a lot of diesel trucks. He explained that research states that students attending school near a high traffic area with diesel trucks have asthma. Ms. Rodriguez shared that most of the schools visited were in areas with significant trucking activity and goods movement. Mr. Morales recommended Wilson Elementary in Colton be considered for the CARE program.

Ms. Suzanne Bilodeau requested an email regarding future scheduled CARE programs. Ms. Rodriguez pointed out that any outside visitors wishing to attend need to confirm with her ahead of time, as school policies would prevent unauthorized visitors without prior notice.

ACTION ITEM: Send CARE program meeting schedule to all EJAG members when available in the Summer of 2020.

Ms. Figueroa asked how the schools were selected for the CARE program. Ms. Wesson explained the schools were predominantly chosen from known environmental justice and AB 617 selected communities. Other outreach was also extended throughout our four county region.

Ms. Nancy Feldman, Principal Deputy District Counsel reiterated comments in regard to attending, as each school district has rigorous requirements on who is allowed on campus. She further explained that South Coast AQMD employees go through a background check to assure the schools that nothing nefarious is in their background.

Ms. Rhett Alexander asked if lesson plans left with teachers were materials they could continue to use after CARE program visits. Ms. Rodriguez explained the lesson plans were still being developed and would include future activities for students and parents to pursue. Ms. Wesson added that the desired outcome would be to keep the students and school staff engaged on air quality by sharing ideas like establishing an environmental justice club. Ms. Alexander asked if the terms “climate change” or “global warming” are linked to the programs. Ms. Rodriguez

stated that it currently was not, and Ms. Alexander suggested it be included so they can learn to use those phrases.

Mr. Harvey Eder, a member of the public, commented in regard to kids getting asthma. He stated there is a real cost and that a health benefit fund should be set-up to reimburse families and schools when medical leave is taken.

Chair Delgado stated that she would like to work with staff to acquire grant funding to expand the CARE program. She further stated if we focused on schools in AB 617 communities, organizations such as Alta Med and Kaiser could contribute to such programs when there is a nexus to health. She asked staff to develop a plan for growing the program with the following information: how many schools could realistically be visited, are more staff needed, and what the timeline would look like through 2021.

ACTION ITEM: Provide information to EJAG Chair on expansion of CARE program.

Mr. Humberto Lugo asked the age group served by the CARE program. Ms. Rodriguez replied that currently it's elementary, 1st through 6th grade. Mr. Lugo suggested including it into the STEM program in AB 617 community schools and through grant funding engage children into monitoring efforts such as mapping.

Mr. Rafael Yanez suggested partnering with the schools and provide Purple Air Monitors with grant funding. Ms. Wesson mentioned that air monitors were being distributed in the high school program (Which are included in the kit until completion of curriculum) and could be extended into the elementary school programs as well (With expansion of the CARE program with funding).

Agenda Item #7: Community Science Overview

Mr. Yanez provided an overview of community science. He noted that Public Lab defined "Community science as a collaboratively lead scientific investigation, exploration and engagement in the entirety of the scientific process". Mr. Yanez stated that we need to understand the issues, learn the science, and ask questions to be more engaged in the community.

Agenda Item #8: Member Updates

Mr. Paul Choe requested information on dry cleaner facilities still in need of replacing equipment, to help outreach to them about Rule 1421 requirements, and the January 1, 2021 deadline to have non-perchloroethylene machines.

ACTION ITEM: Provide a list of dry cleaner facilities needing replacement before deadline and how much grant money is still available.

Dr. Afif El-Hasan shared the high importance of flu vaccines, especially in areas of high pollution, which exacerbates compromised immunities.

Mr. Donald Smith shared an update on his efforts to discuss road repairs, street sweepers, and degraded streets with his local government. He shared a news article regarding federal fracking projects and expressed the importance of keeping informed on such projects as it affects the air.

Dr. Jill Johnston shared that she is working on a project in collaboration with University of Illinois at Chicago and the National Institutes of Health developing a bilingual app for environmental hazard reporting with communities. The prototype is almost in place, they are pilot testing it with organizations to have it deployed within six months at no cost on Androids and iPhones. Then hopeful to work, collaborate, and integrate with South Coast AQMD's complaint system into their app. Mr. Yanez invited Dr. Johnston to present the project at an upcoming AB 617 meeting at which a community action plan is discussed.

Ms. Figueroa read sections of an article regarding environmental violations in the implementation of the World Logistics Center. She shared that the impact of increased trucking on a stretch of freeway unequipped to handle high traffic would result in increased idling of large trucks. She stated that the local elected representatives approved the World Logistics Center as they indicated the need for jobs, but she expressed the need for jobs is putting children at continued risk as they already live in a smoggy area.

Agenda Item #9 - Other Business

There was no other business.

Agenda Item #10- Public Comment

Mr. Eder suggested the South Coast AQMD and other local agencies pursue litigation against the fossil fuel industries and invest in future solar energy.

Agenda Item #11: Next Meeting Date

The next regular EJAG meeting is on Friday, April 24, 2020 at 12:00 pm.

Adjournment

Chair Delgado shared contact information and welcomed members to contact her if they wished to meet individually on environmental justice. The meeting was adjourned at 1:32 pm.



SMALL BUSINESS ASSISTANCE OFFICE

HANNEA COX
AIR POLLUTION ENGINEER II

SMALL BUSINESS ASSISTANCE (SBA) OFFICE PROGRAMS:

1

Fee Review
Committee

2

Permit and
Registration
Assistance

3

No Fault
On-Site
Inspections

4

Air Quality
Permit
Checklist
Process

5

Incentive
Programs

FEE REVIEW COMMITTEE

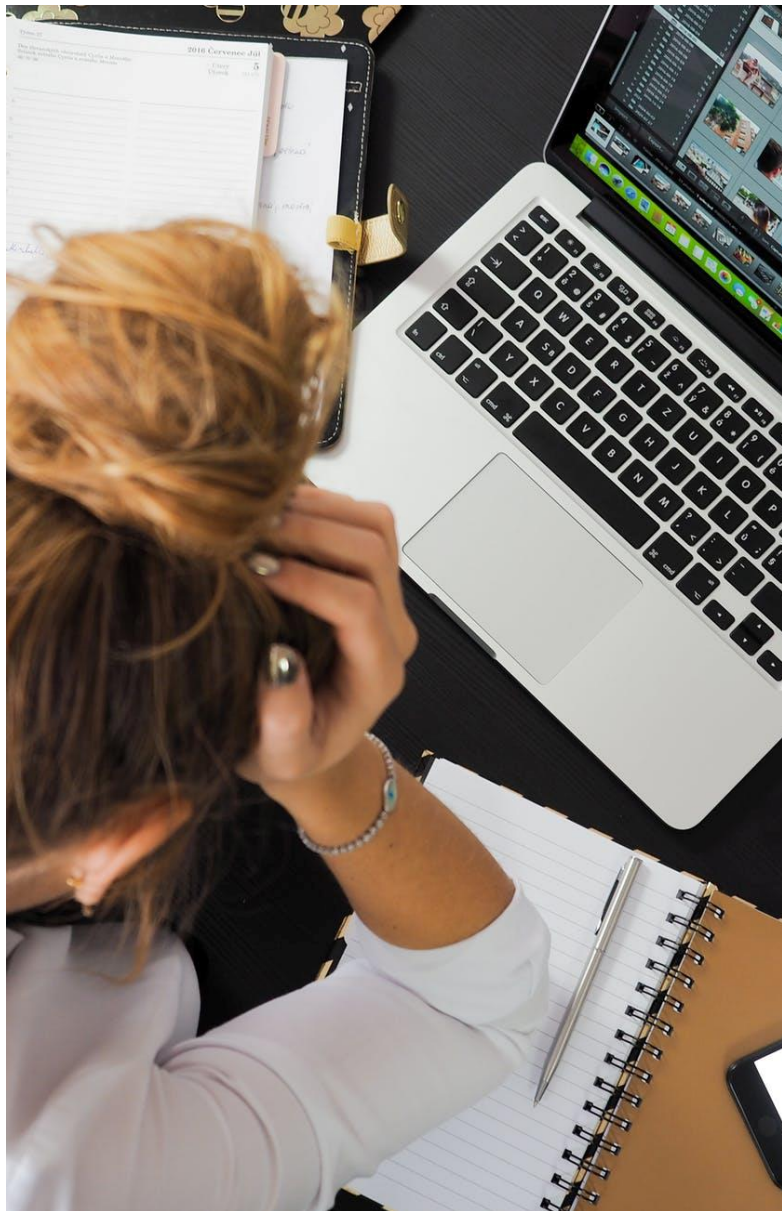
- SBA Organizes committee
- Assists business with Fee Review filing
- Investigates and evaluates billing disputes.



LIAISON BETWEEN BUSINESS OWNERS/OPERATORS AND SOUTH COAST AQMD

- Permit, Registration and Variance application assistance
- Line by line assistance with completing applications for permits, registrations, and/or variances
- Assist with the understanding and complying with South Coast AQMD Rules and Regulations
- Assist with determining applicable fees





NO FAULT ON-SITE INSPECTIONS

<100 employees or
gross annual revenues
<\$5 million

Asses
owner/operator's
specific needs





South Coast
Air Quality Management District
21865 Copley Drive, Diamond Bar, CA 91765-4182
Air Quality Permit Checklist

Small Business Assistance Office
1-800-388-2121
smallbizassistance@aqmd.gov
www.aqmd.gov

South Coast Air Quality Management District developed this Air Quality Permit Checklist (checklist) as a screening evaluation tool in the process required by California Government Code Section 65850.2.

Please submit this checklist to the Small Business Assistance Office by email, mail, or in person for review. If you have any questions or need assistance completing this checklist, contact the Small Business Assistance Office. Provide a response to **all sections** of this checklist as South Coast AQMD may decline to approve this checklist due to lack of information from the applicant.

NOTE: This checklist is not intended for the approval of demolition or renovation activities. If there are any **demolition or renovation activities** that may disturb building materials, please contact the Asbestos Hotline at 909-396-2336.

Section A – Operator and Business Information	
1. Business Name:	
2. Address:	
Street	City CA Zip
3. Contact Name:	Phone:
Title:	Email:
Section B – Business and Equipment Description	
Please provide a detailed description of the ongoing business operations performed and equipment used at this location, including both new and existing equipment. Provide the existing South Coast AQMD facility ID and/or permit numbers, if any.	



AQPC 062019 Final.pdf

AIR QUALITY PERMIT CHECKLIST (AQPC)

- California Health & Safety Code requirement prior to issuance of a Certificate of Occupancy.
- Initial screening evaluation to determine if a permit and/or registration is needed.



INCENTIVES

- Dry Cleaner Financial Incentive Grant Program
- Up to \$10,000 for complete Professional Wet Cleaning Systems.
- \$20,000 grants for CO2 machines.
- December 31, 2020 South Coast AQMD Rule 142I Perchloroethylene (PERC) will no longer be used in the South Coast AQMD jurisdiction.
- Currently, over 600 grants have been funded.
- Approximately 160 facilities continue to operate using PERC.
- [Incentives Page](#)



SMALL BUSINESS ASSISTANCE OFFICE OPERATIONS AND COVID-19

- Continued level of service to the public
- Available Tuesday through Friday from 7:00am until 5:30pm; South Coast AQMD is closed on Mondays
- No Fault Inspections provided virtually as needed
- Virtual Fee Review Committee meetings

QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS WELCOMED





Grist / Ada Yokota / CSA Images / Jose A. Bernat Bacete / Getty Images

<https://grist.org/justice/how-vulnerable-is-your-community-to-coronavirus-these-new-maps-reveal-a-familiar-pattern/>

Covid-19 Impacts on Environmental Justice Communities

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE ADVISORY
GROUP, SOUTH COAST AQMD

8/28/2020

Topics



PANDEMIC STATISTICS &
SOCIAL DETERMINANTS OF
HEALTH (SDH)



SCIENCE AND RESEARCH



COMMUNITY
DISCUSSION

Pandemic Statistics & SDH

Descriptive Epidemiology

Total counts or cases

- Tracks the public health burden, availability of resources, and trends
- By demographics, hospitalizations, geography, 7-day averages

% Percent of the total

- Looks at distribution of disease across groups
- Who is impacted more than others?

Rate: Incidence (cases) and Mortality (death)

- Tracks how many NEW people have become infected or died within a time period. Comparable across groups and places with differing population size
- total cases per unit of population (cases per 100,000 people)
- Actual and Age-Adjusted

National overview

48,020,777
Total test results

3,946,708
Cases

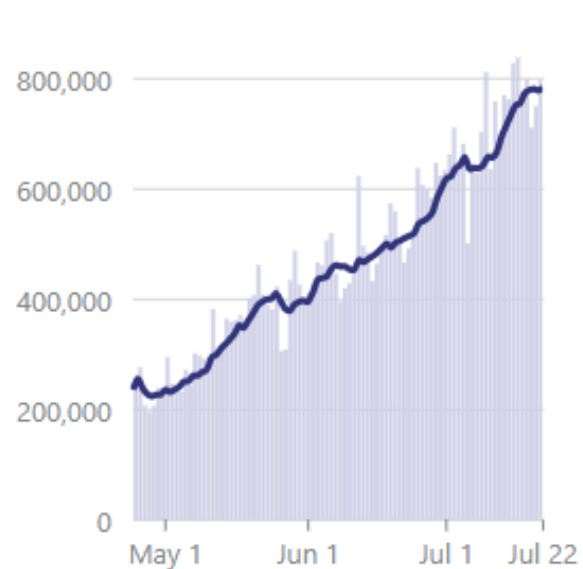
135,438
Deaths

Last 90 days

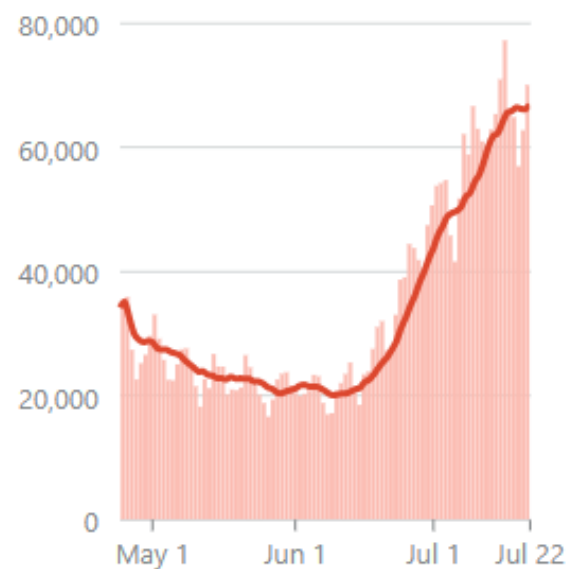
Full range

— National 7-day average

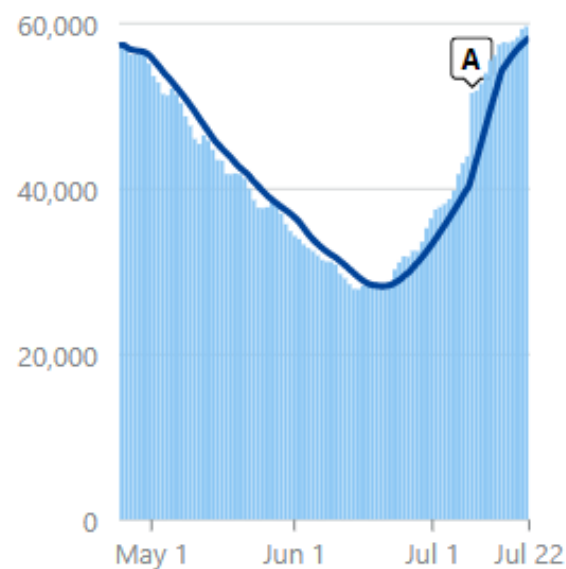
New tests



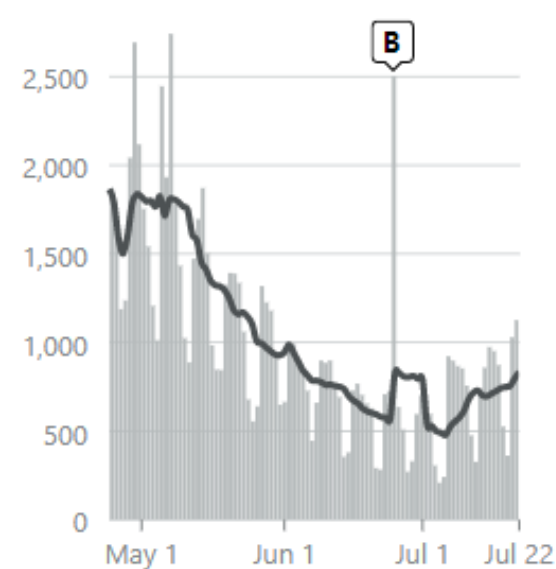
New cases



Current hospitalizations [\(Notes\)](#)



New deaths [\(Notes\)](#)



[Chart information and data](#) ↑



<https://covidtracking.com/data#chart-annotations>

CALIFORNIA CASE STATISTICS

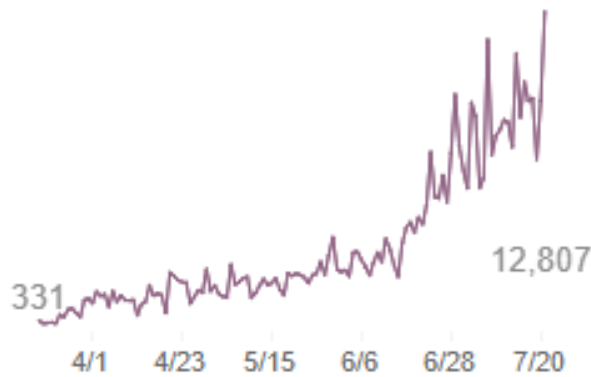
Positive Cases

413,576

1 Day Δ
+12,807
+3.2%

14 Day Δ
+124,108
+42.9%

Day-Over-Day New Cases

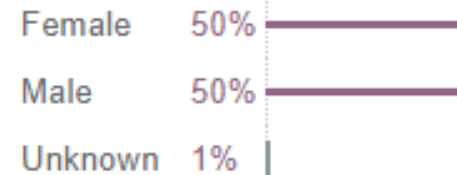


Note: Numbers may not represent true day-over-day change as reporting of test results can be delayed.

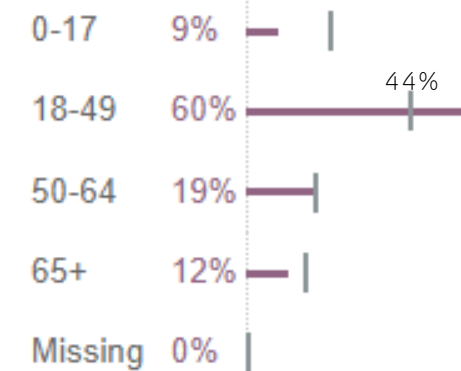
CASE DEMOGRAPHICS

| = California Population %

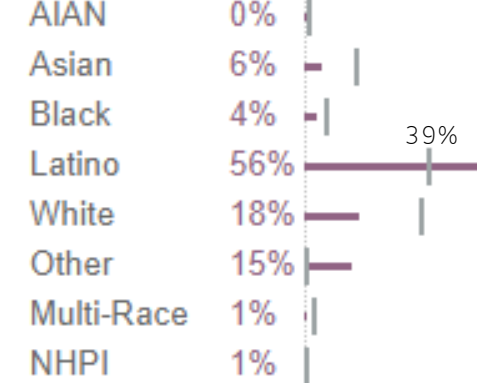
Gender



Age



Race/Ethnicity



CALIFORNIA TESTING RESULTS

Tests Reported
(by 25 public labs)

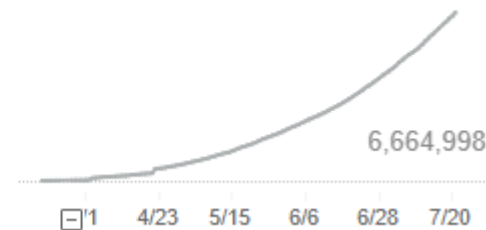
6,664,998

1 Day Δ
+127,487
+2.0%

14 Day Δ
+1,668,823
+33.4%

Positivity:
7 Day: 7.6%
14 Day: 7.4%

Cumulative Total Tests Reported



| = California Population %

Deaths

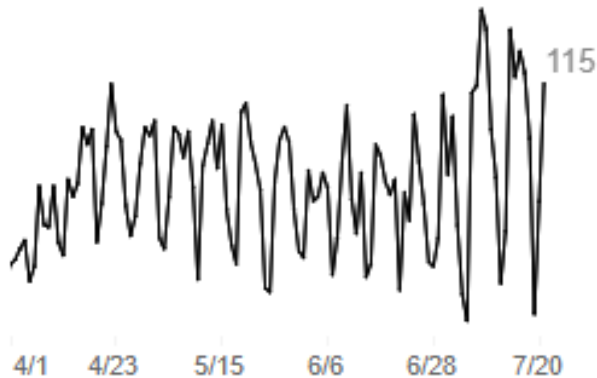
7,870

1 Day Δ
+115
+1.5%

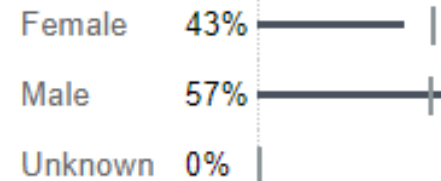
14 Day Δ
+1,308
+19.9%

US Total Deaths: 140,630

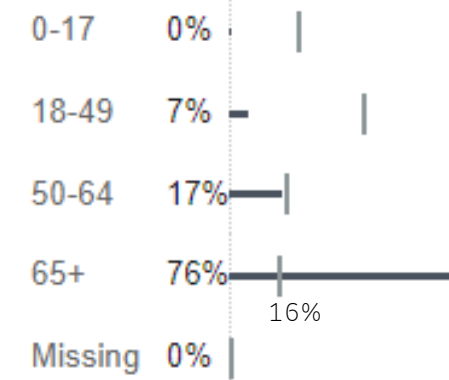
Day-Over-Day New Deaths



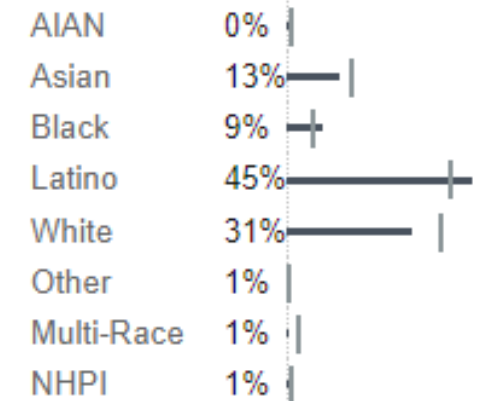
Gender



Age

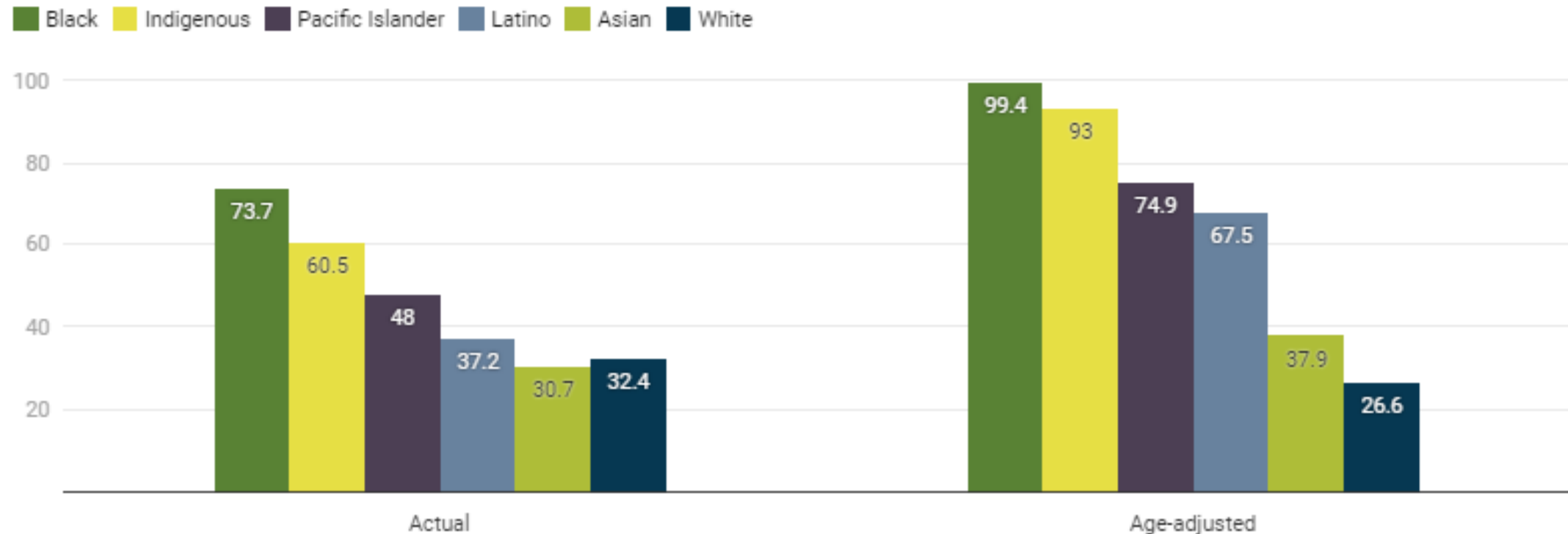


Race/Ethnicity



Note: Demographic percentages may not add up to 100% due to rounding. Breakdown of deaths is a subset of total deaths as reported by law enforcement.

COVID-19 deaths per 100,000 Americans through July 21, 2020: Actual and age-adjusted mortality rates by race/ethnicity



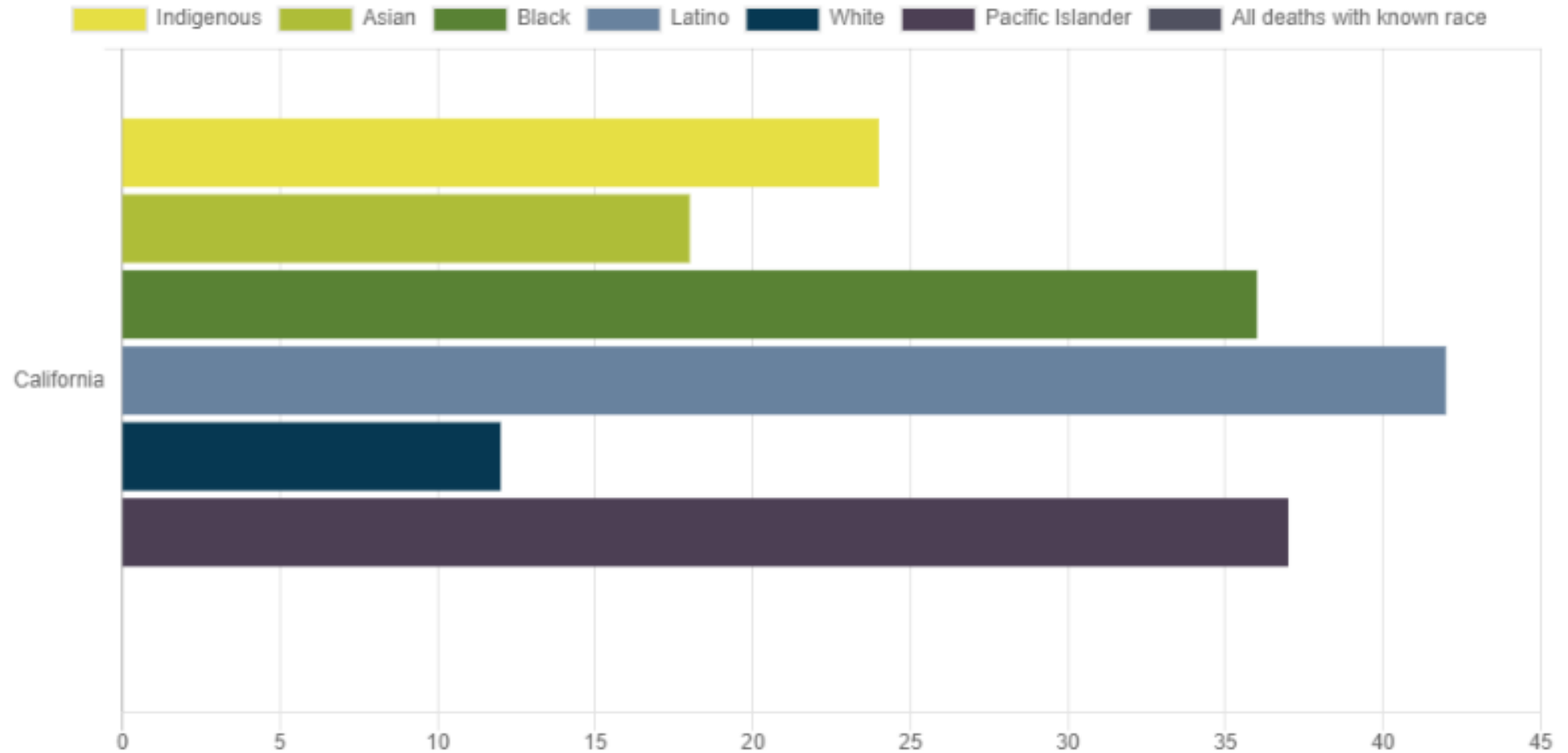
Indirect age-adjustment has been used.

Source: [APM Research Lab](#) • [Get the data](#) • Created with [Datawrapper](#)

<https://www.apmresearchlab.org/covid/deaths-by-race#rates>

California

AGE-ADJUSTED COVID-19 DEATHS PER 100,000 PEOPLE, THROUGH JULY 21, 2020



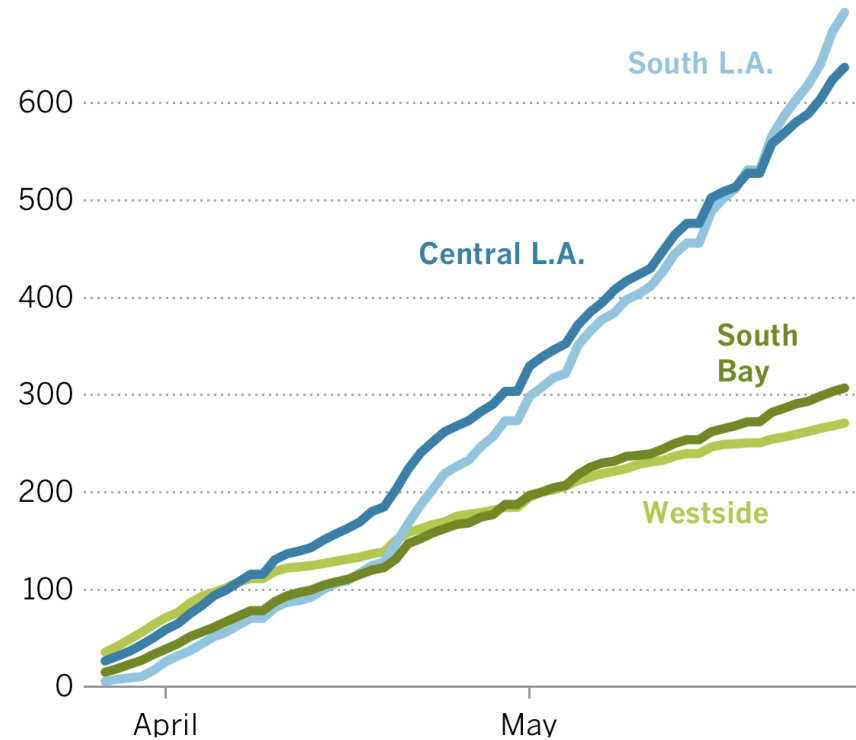
** Latino ethnicity is reported separately from non-Hispanic race groups in California.*

<https://www.apmresearchlab.org/covid/deaths-by-race#rates>

Comparing COVID-19 infection rates by L.A. region

Infection rates in the poorer regions of Central and South L.A. surged over the past month, while richer areas saw a slower rise.

Cases per 100,000 residents



Data as of May 26

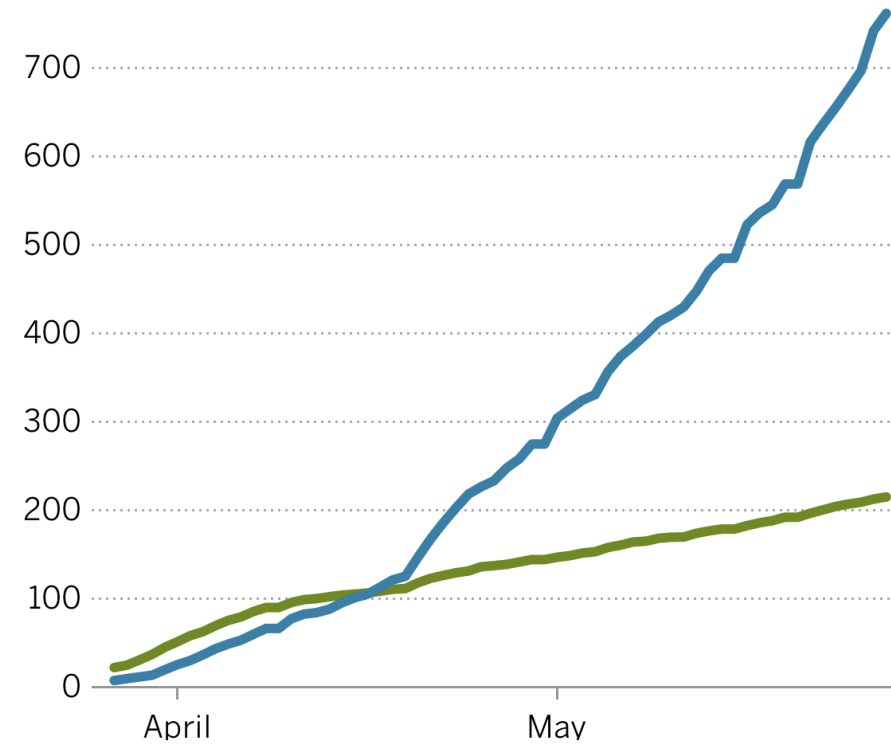
L.A. County Department of Public Health, Times analysis

Ryan Menezes

Poorer neighborhoods now have higher coronavirus infection rates

Cases per 100,000 residents

High-poverty neighborhoods Low-poverty



Note: A high-poverty neighborhood was defined as one where more than 25% of the population was living in poverty. Low-poverty neighborhoods had a rate of less than 5%. Data as of May 26.

U.S. Census Bureau, L.A. County Department of Public Health, Times analysis

Ryan Menezes



California County Data
Monitoring for SCAQMD
Counties

Page Last Updated : July 22, 2020

		Elevated Disease Transmission		Increasing Hospitalization	Limited Hospital Capacity	
Threshold	<150	Case Rate >100 OR Case Rate >25 AND Positivity >8%		>10% Increase	<20% ICU Beds Available OR <25% Ventilators Available	
County	Avg # tests per day (per 100,000 population) (7 day average with a 7 day lag)	Case rate per 100,000 (14 days)	Testing positivity (%) (7 day average with a 7 day lag)	% Change in 3-day avg COVID+ hospitalized patients	% ICU beds currently available	% Ventilators currently available
Los Angeles	242.3	326.2	8.4	✓	✓	✓
San Bernardino	140.3	177.3	16.8	✓	✓	✓
Riverside	146.2	210.9	14.2	✓	✓	✓
Orange	166.1	183.3	12.4	✓	✓	✓

Conditions in the places where people live, learn, work, and play affect a wide range of health risks and outcomes.

[Healthy People 2020. Social Determinants of Health](https://hitconsultant.net/2019/03/18/social-determinants-of-health-sdoh-collection/)



Racist Policies

“A racist policy is any measure that produces or sustains racial inequity between racial groups. An antiracist policy is any measure that produces or sustains racial equity between racial groups. By policy, I mean written and unwritten laws, rules, procedures, processes, regulations, and guidelines that govern people. There is no such thing as a nonracist or race-neutral policy. Every policy in every institution in every community in every nation is producing or sustaining either racial inequity or equity between racial groups.”

-Ibram X. Kendi

Who's most impacted by the Pandemic?

Elderly

Non-white and low-income populations

Frontline and essential workers

Users of public transportation

Underlying health conditions/comorbidities

Invisible communities: nursing homes, meatpacking, farm workers, prisons

Communities with higher ambient air pollution

The intersection of these are EJ
Communities!

Science and Research

PUBLICATIONS AND RESEARCH STUDIES

Covid-19 and Ambient Air Pollution

Harvard study (Wu et al., 2020)

For every 1 Mg/m³ increase in PM_{2.5} there is an associated increase of 8% in COVID-19 related deaths. US-based

China Study (Yongjian et al., 2020)

Short-term exposure to higher concentrations of PM_{2.5}, PM₁₀, CO, NO₂ and O₃ is associated with an increased risk of COVID-19 infection.

Italian Study (Fattorini and Regoli, 2020)

The chronicity of exposure may influence the anomalous variability of SARS-CoV-2 in Italy for pollutants NO₂, O₃, PM_{2.5} and PM₁₀.

Some positives and negatives

Reductions in air pollutants during Stay at Home (Berman and Ebisu, 2020)

Statistically significant NO₂ declines were observed during the current COVID-19 period compared to historical data: a 25.5% reduction with absolute decrease of 4.8 ppb. PM_{2.5} also showed decreases during the COVID-19 period

Economic decline and Fracking (Tabuchi, 2020)

The federal government estimates that there are already more than three million abandoned oil and gas wells across the United States, two million of which are unplugged, releasing the methane equivalent of the annual emissions from more than 1.5 million cars.

References

Berman, J. D., & Ebisu, K. (2020). Changes in US air pollution during the COVID-19 pandemic. *Science of the Total Environment*, 139864.

Fattorini, D., & Regoli, F. (2020). Role of the chronic air pollution levels in the Covid-19 outbreak risk in Italy. *Environmental Pollution*, 114732.

Tabuchi, H. (2020, July). *Fracking Firms Fail, Rewarding Executives and Raising Climate Fears*. Oil and gas companies are hurtling toward bankruptcy, raising fears that wells will be left leaking planet-warming pollutants, with cleanup costs left to taxpayers. New York Times, July 17. Accessed from <https://www.nytimes.com/2020/07/12/climate/oil-fracking-bankruptcy-methane-executive-pay.html>

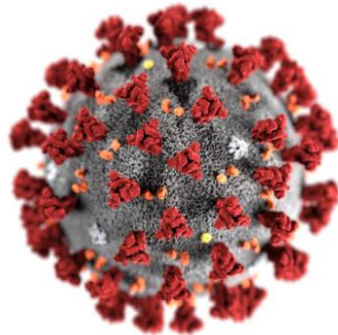
Wu, X., Nethery, R. C., Sabath, B. M., Braun, D., & Dominici, F. (2020). Exposure to air pollution and COVID-19 mortality in the United States. *medRxiv*. doi: <https://doi.org/10.1101/2020.04.05.20054502>

Yongjian, Z., Jingu, X., Fengming, H., & Liqing, C. (2020). Association between short-term exposure to air pollution and COVID-19 infection: Evidence from China. *Science of the total environment*, 138704.

Group Discussion

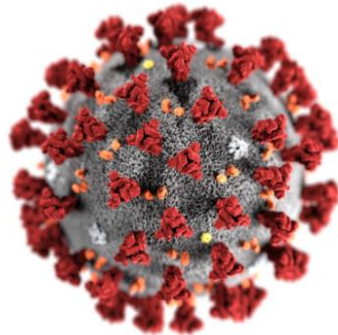
Topic 1: Community Impacts

What impacts are you seeing, affecting environmental justice communities since the outbreak of COVID-19?



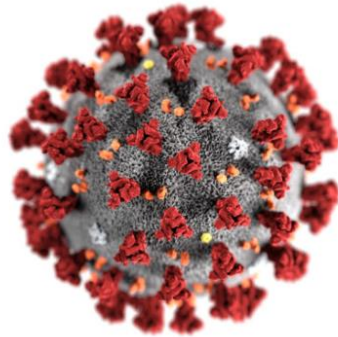
Topic 2: Community Actions

How is your organization responding to the community needs under COVID-19?



- What is your agency's role in this crisis?
- Did your organization begin a food bank?
- Are you connecting with children/seniors?
- Helping with **Employment Development Department**?

Topic 3: Communications



What communication tools have served your organization well in engaging your community members?

- What virtual tools or platforms do you use to communicate? (Zoom, WebEx, and Facebook)
- Phone Trees
- Newsletters
- Flyers
- Use of translators
- Have they been effective

Thank you!

PREPARED BY MONIQUE N. HERNANDEZ, PHD

HERNANDEZMONIQUE@GMAIL.COM

WITH SUPPORT FROM SOUTH COAST AQMD



Environmental Justice
Community Partnership

Program Update

August 28, 2020



Environmental Justice Community Partnership (EJCP)

Overview:

- Advisory Council Meetings
- Environmental Justice Advisory Group
- Environmental Justice Inter-Agency Task Force Meetings
- Clean Air Program for Elementary Students (C.A.P.E.S.)
- Environmental Justice Conference
- Environmental Justice Student Bus Tour
- Continued community engagement throughout all four counties



ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE
**COMMUNITY
PARTNERSHIP**



EJCP Advisory Council

The mission of the Advisory Council is to ensure that the EJCP programs address the air quality concerns of diverse communities throughout South Coast AQMD's jurisdiction. Members advise and assist South Coast AQMD staff on the development and implementation of EJCP programs.

Participating Members Represent:

- Academia
- Community members
- EJ/Community Organizations
- Health
- Labor
- Non-Profit
- South Coast AQMD
- Union

2020 Meeting Dates

**Wednesday
March 4, 2020**

**Wednesday
June 3, 2020**

**Wednesday
September 2, 2020**

**Wednesday
December 2, 2020**

Inter-Agency Task Force

The Environmental Justice Inter-Agency Task Force creates opportunities for regular collaboration and communication between agencies that respond to environmental justice issues and address complaints by the general public.

Participating Agencies and Organizations:

- Environmental Justice Leaders
- Executives from Multiple Federal, State and Local Government Agencies

2020 Meeting Dates:

- Wednesday, February 12, 2020
- Wednesday, May 13, 2020
- Wednesday, August 12, 2020
- Wednesday, November 4, 2020



Inter-Agency Task Force

Goals



**Implement an
environmental agency
staff training**



**Create and distribute a
list of resources and
programs available to
the community**



**Expand and distribute
a public inter-agency
referral directory**



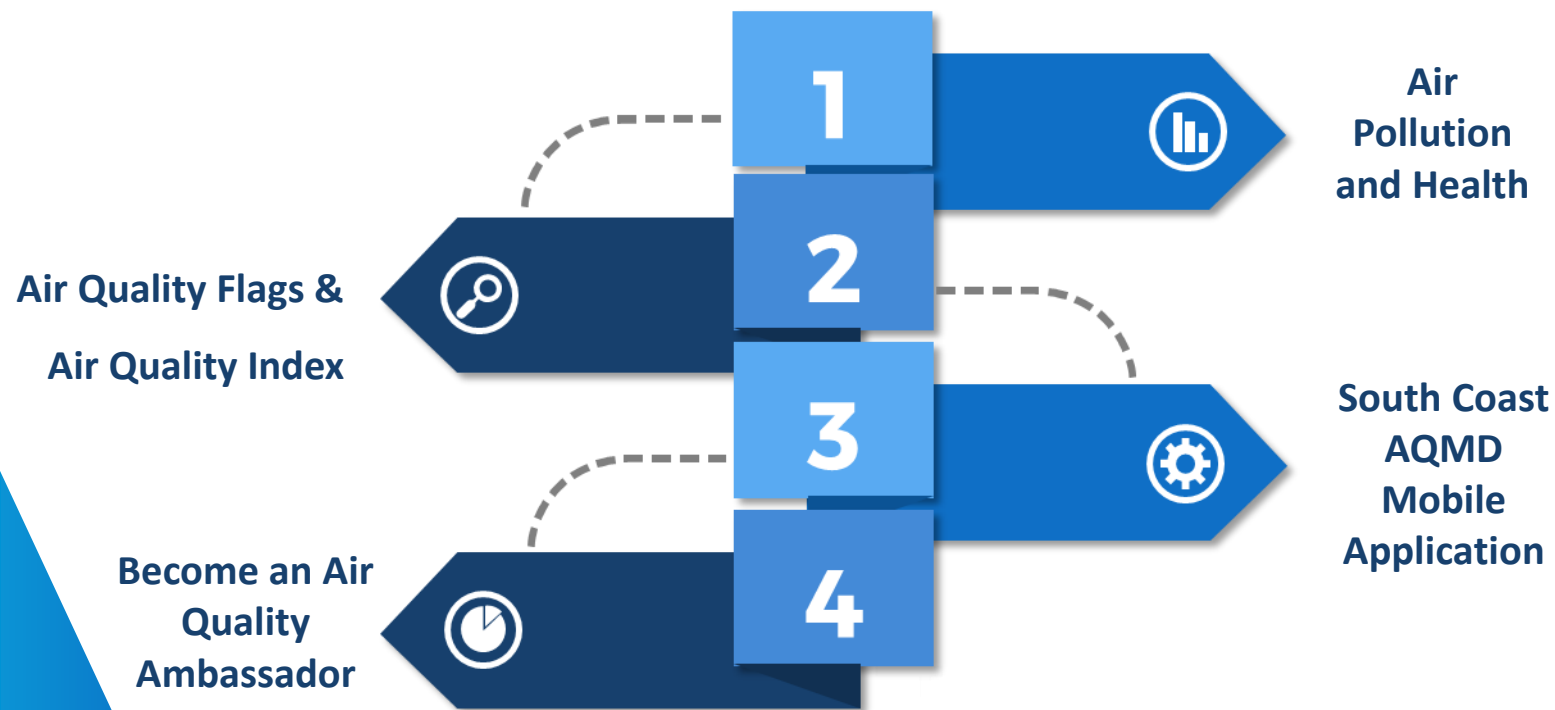
**Partner with LA
County Public Works
to add additional
services on their
online service
locator**



**Create an internal
inter-agency
staff directory**

Clean Air Program for Elementary Students (C.A.P.E.S.)

C.A.P.E.S. educates elementary school students on air pollution and how they can do their part to protect the environment.



6th Annual Environmental Justice Conference

A New Era of Environmental Justice - Our Community Survival

Wednesday, October 28, 2020

Platforms: Zoom & WHOVA

- AB 617 Finding Success in Community Partnerships and Paving a Path Together
- Youth United to Change the World
- Hearing the Voice of Health Professionals- The Future of America
- Women in the Environmental Justice Movement
- A Closer Look - Tribal Nations on the Frontlines

Plenary Session:

- Black Lives Matters - Race and Environmental Justice



Environmental Justice Student Bus Tour

The EJ Student Bus Tour engages high school and university students in learning how air pollution affects environmental justice communities by visiting communities directly impacted by industrial facilities, ports, and transportation corridors.

2020 Virtual Bus Tour - San Bernardino County

Location: San Bernardino County

Partnerships: San Bernardino Valley College and Community Leaders

Tour: Virtual live bus tour using Google Earth



Environmental Justice Efforts

Continued staff engagement with Environmental Justice Organizations and leaders throughout the region.

Examples of Other Efforts at South Coast AQMD:

- AB 617
- Young Leaders Advisory Council
- Why Healthy Air Matters Program



To Report Air Quality
Concerns in Your Area

Call 1-800-CUT-SMOG

QUESTIONS?

Please contact
Alicia Rodriguez
909-396-2311 or
arodriguez1@aqmd.gov

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