

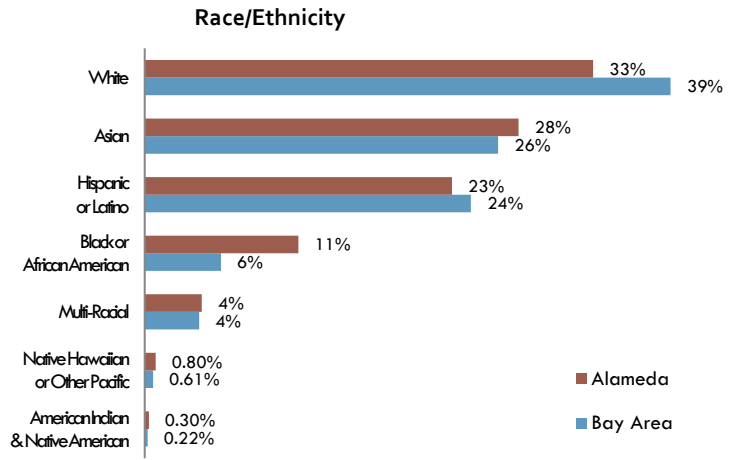
# Snapshot of Poverty: Alameda County



## WHO LIVES IN ALAMEDA COUNTY?<sup>1</sup>

Alameda represents 23% of the population of the Bay Area. It has the smallest White population as a % of county population compared to other Bay Area counties. Alameda has seen the largest population percentage growth of all Bay Area Counties. Between 2016-17, some cities such as Dublin grew nearly 4%, while Livermore and Newark grew nearly 1.5%.

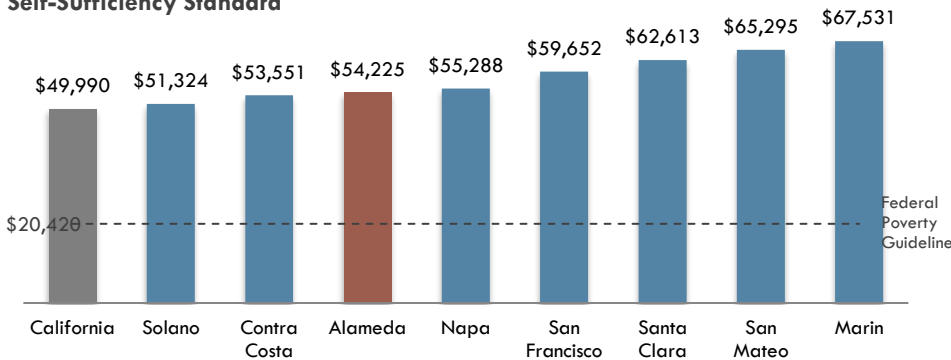
	ALAMEDA	BAY AREA
% Change in Population (2010-2015)	+4.95%	+4.44%
Median Age	37.1	38.7
% Elders (65 and older)	12%	13%
% Youth (17 and younger)	22%	22%
Foreign Born	31%	31%



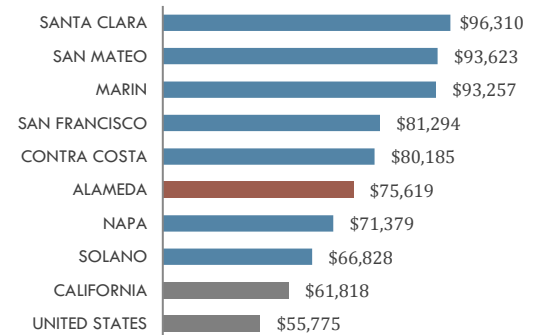
## POVERTY IN ALAMEDA COUNTY<sup>2</sup>

The Federal Poverty Guideline in 2017 is \$20,420<sup>3</sup>. This guideline does not vary by location and is often an inadequate measure of poverty for places like the Bay Area. The California Self-Sufficiency Standard (SSS) is another measure, which includes the costs of basic needs for California's working families. The SSS figure below is based on a family of 3<sup>4</sup>.

### Self-Sufficiency Standard

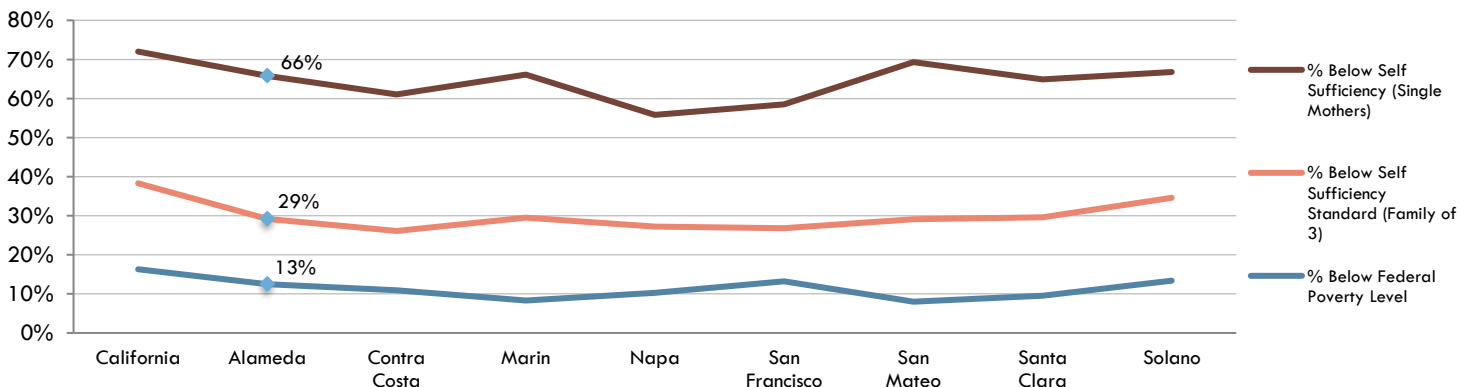


### Median Household Income



The figure below shows how many families and single mothers are considered below poverty based on the SSS in comparison to the Federal Poverty Guideline for all populations.

### Percent Below SSS and Poverty

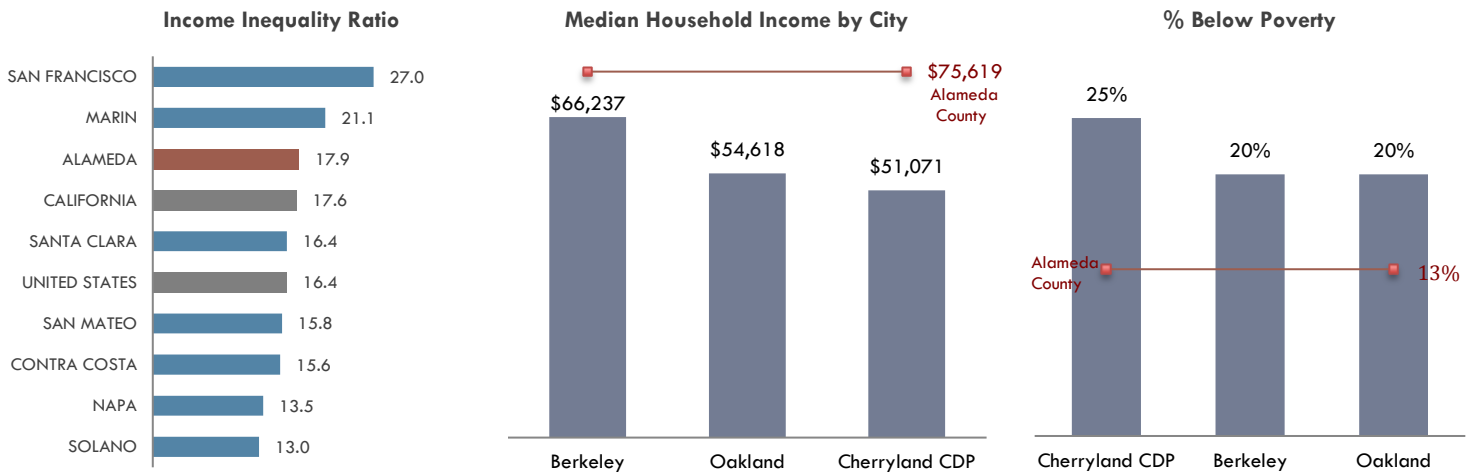


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## INEQUITY AND SOCIAL WELFARE IN ALAMEDA COUNTY<sup>5</sup>

For almost a decade, the Bay Area has experienced a rise in inequality<sup>6</sup>. The top income families earn almost 17.9 times more than low-income families in Alameda County<sup>7</sup>.



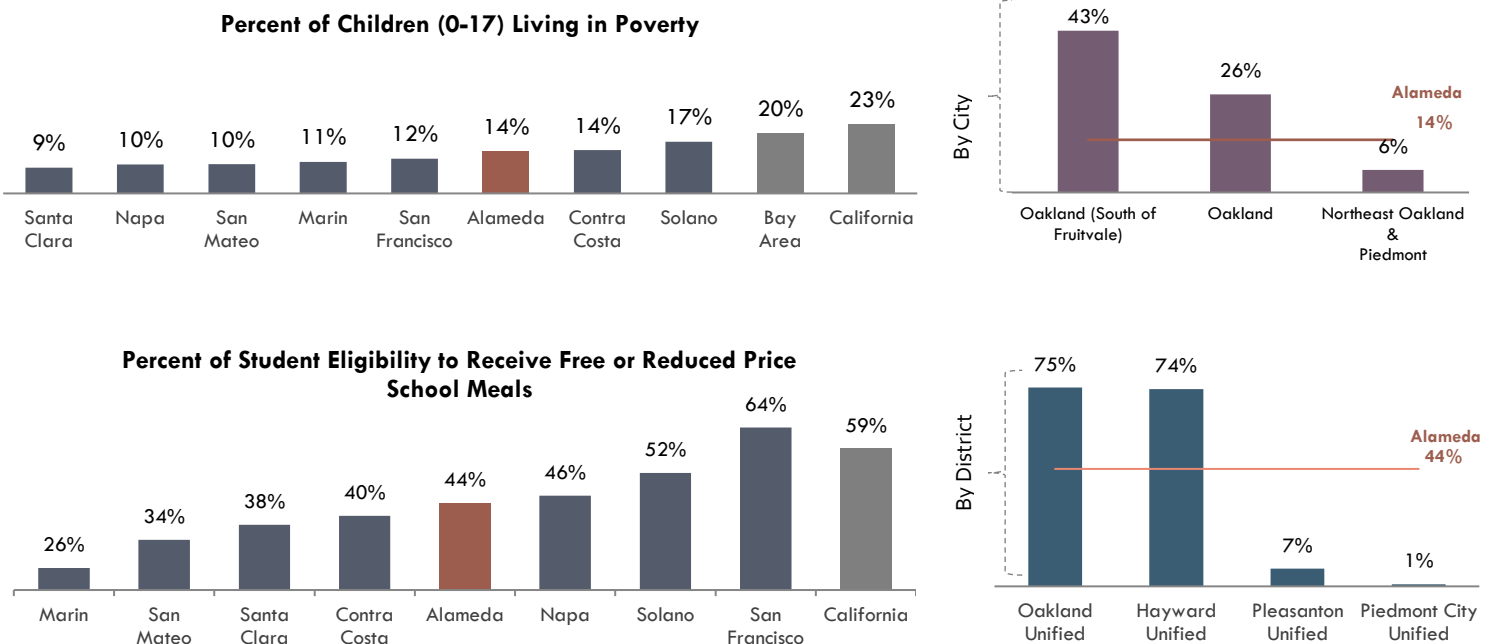
**Table: Other Inequity and Social Welfare Measures for Alameda County<sup>8</sup>**

Alameda receives the most Federal Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) of any Bay Area County.

	Total Medi-Cal Enrollment	Uninsured	Total Federal EITC Received (in millions)*	Households with a High Housing Burden	Unemployment
<b>Alameda</b>	<b>437,369</b>	<b>10%</b>	<b>\$195.1</b>	<b>40%</b>	<b>4.7%</b>
California	13,490,409	9%	\$7,342.9	44%	6.2%

## OUR FAMILIES AND CHILDREN<sup>9</sup>

Relative to the Bay Area, Alameda County has a moderate rate of children living in poverty. However, it is important to note the massive disparities within the county, city, and school district.



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## SOURCES

- <sup>1</sup> Demographic data is sourced from US Census Bureau's American Community Survey (ACS) 2010 and 2015.
- <sup>2</sup> Poverty Measures are sourced from US Census Bureau's American Community Survey (2011-2015) and Insight Center for Community Economic Development 2014.
- <sup>3</sup> The Census Bureau uses a federal poverty threshold based on a set income by family size to determine poverty.
- <sup>4</sup> Family is defined here as a family of three (2 Adults, One School Aged Child)
- <sup>5</sup> Inequity data is sourced from US Census Bureau's ACS (2015), and Silicon Valley Institute for Regional Studies, 2015.
- <sup>6</sup> Silicon Valley Institute for Regional Studies, 2015.
- <sup>7</sup> Public Policy Institute of California, 2012-2014
- <sup>8</sup> This table is sourced from kidsdata.org, 2017 (Medi-Cal Enrollment, Uninsured Children, Households With High Housing Burden, Unemployment); Brookings Institution (EITC), 2015, and US Census Bureau's American Community Survey, 2015 (Uninsured by County).
- <sup>9</sup> Our Families and Children Measures are sourced from kidsdata.org, 2014-2015 (% children living in poverty, Free or Reduced Priced Meals); California Department of Education, 2017 (Free or Reduced Priced Meals).

## GLOSSARY OF TERMS AND DEFINITIONS

BAY AREA	Bay Area is defined as the following 8 counties: Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, Napa, San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara, and Solano.
EARNED INCOME TAX CREDIT	The United States federal earned income tax credit or earned income credit (EITC or EIC) is a refundable tax credit for low- to moderate-income working individuals and couples, particularly those with children. The amount of EITC benefit depends on a recipient's income and number of children.
FEDERAL POVERTY GUIDELINE	The Census Bureau uses a set of money income thresholds that vary by family size and composition to determine who is in poverty. If a family's total income is less than the family's threshold, then that family is considered in poverty. The official poverty thresholds do not vary geographically, but are updated for inflation using the Consumer Price Index (CPI-U). The official poverty definition uses money income before taxes and does not include capital gains or noncash benefits (such as public housing, Medicaid, and food stamps).
FOREIGN BORN	The Census Bureau uses the term foreign born to refer to anyone who is not a U.S. citizen at birth. This includes naturalized U.S. citizens, lawful permanent residents (immigrants), temporary migrants (such as foreign students), humanitarian migrants (such as refugees and asylees), and unauthorized migrants.
STUDENT ELIGIBILITY TO RECEIVE FREE OR REDUCED PRICE MEALS	Students with family incomes under 130 percent of the federal poverty line are eligible for free meals, and those with incomes between 130 percent and 185 percent of the poverty line are eligible for low-cost (or reduced-price) meals.
HOUSEHOLDS WITH A HIGH HOUSING BURDEN	Estimated percentage of households spending 30% or more of household income on housing costs. The U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development considers housing "affordable" if total expenses (rent or mortgage, taxes, insurance, utilities, and other related payments) account for less than 30% of total household income.
INCOME INEQUALITY RATIO	The ratio is mean household income of the top earning quintile (top 20%) divided by the mean household income of the lowest earning quintile (bottom 20%). A number closest to 1 means relative distribution of income equality.
MEDI-CAL	Medi-Cal is a program that offers free or low-cost health coverage for children and adults with limited income and resources.
MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME	Median household income is an economic measure commonly used to measure and compare economic status and distributed wealth. The Census measures household income as the combined incomes of all people sharing a particular household or place of residence.
MULTI-RACIAL	Individuals who identify as more than one race.
SELF-SUFFICIENCY STANDARD	The Self-Sufficiency Standard measures the minimum income necessary to cover all of a non-elderly (under 65 years old) and non-disabled individual, or family's basic expenses – housing, food, childcare, healthcare, transportation, and taxes – without public or private assistance.
UNINSURED	Many uninsured people cite the high cost of insurance as the main reason they lack coverage. Most uninsured people are in low-income families and have at least one worker in the family. Reflecting the more limited availability of public coverage in some states, adults are more likely to be uninsured than children. People of color are at higher risk of being uninsured than non-Hispanic Whites.
UNEMPLOYMENT	The U.S. Census Bureau states that all civilians 16 years old and over are classified as unemployed if they (1) were neither "at work" nor "with a job but not at work" during the reference week, and (2) were looking for work during the last 4 weeks, and (3) were available to accept a job. Also included as unemployed are civilians who did not work at all during the reference week, were waiting to be called back to a job from which they had been laid off, and were available for work except for temporary illness.