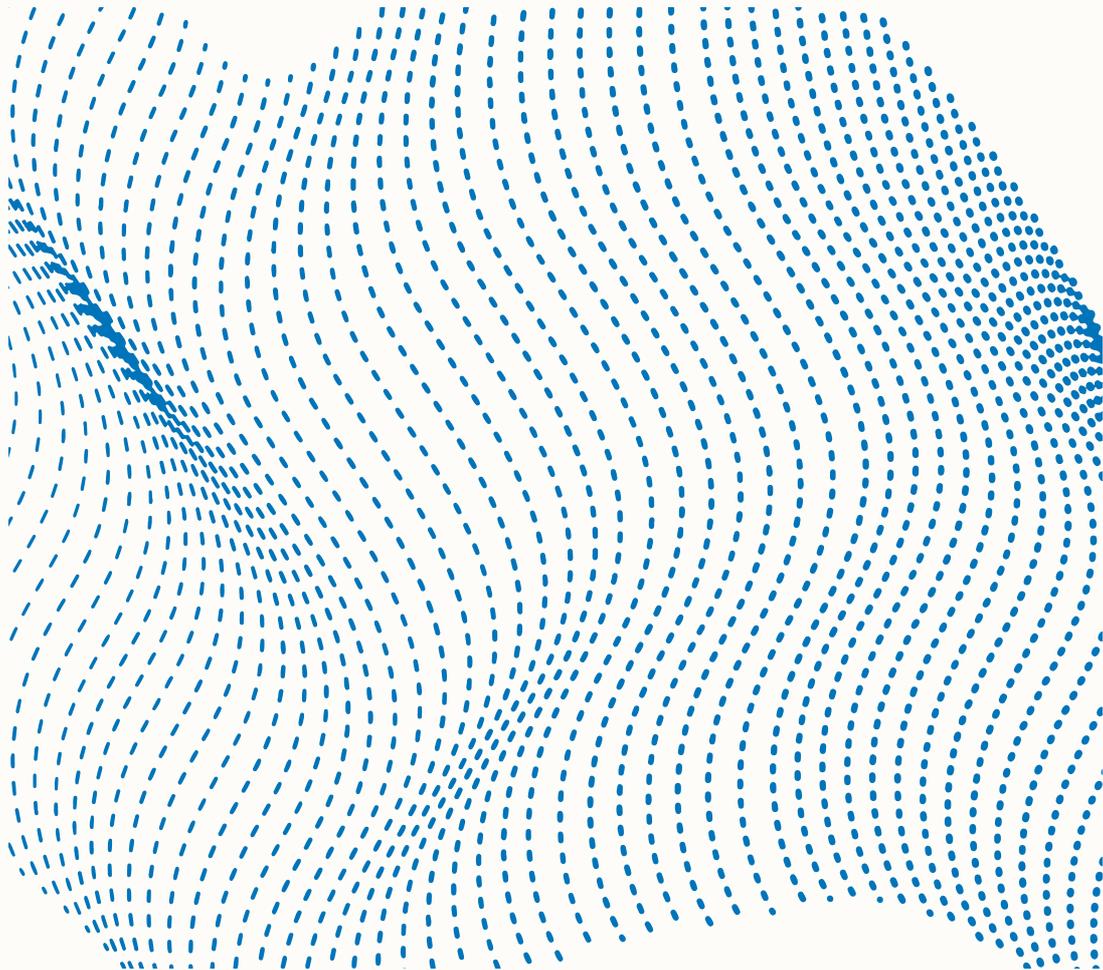


2023

SILICON VALLEY PAIN INDEX

*If Silicon Valley Was a Nation, It Would
be Deemed Politically Unstable*



2023 SILICON VALLEY PAIN INDEX [SVPI]

If Silicon Valley Was a Nation, It Would be Deemed Politically Unstable

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Introduction

The purposes of the *Silicon Valley Pain Index [SVPI]* report are to:

(1) Provide an efficient, easily digestible, statistical overview of structured inequalities to inform policy and practice in “Silicon Valley.”ⁱ

ⁱ Generally speaking, “Silicon Valley” refers to Santa Clara and San Mateo Counties throughout the 2023 SVPI. However, for the many statistics cited from our colleague’s report at Silicon Valley Joint Ventures, including those on wealth concentration, “Silicon Valley” is expanded eastward to include the cities of Fremont, Newark, and Union City (all in Alameda County), and southward to include Scotts Valley (Santa Cruz County). Data referring to specific counties or cities within the region of Silicon Valley will be described as such. Every effort has been made to access the most recent research findings and ensure the accuracy of information in the 2023 SVPI. Any errors brought to the attention of the lead author or the SJSU Human Rights Institute will be researched, and if verified, will be corrected via the HRI website and HRI/SVPI social media accounts.

(2) Serve to measure Santa Clara County's performance as a "[human rights county](#)," which it declared in 2018 in accordance with the [International Bill of Human Rights](#) and in accordance with the [Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women](#) [CEDAW] in [2023](#).

(3) Spark collaborations between scholars, students, stakeholders, communities, and policy makers to address inequality and achieve greater human rights practice.

Originally inspired by Professor Bill Quigley's [Katrina Pain Index](#) following the devastating 2005 hurricane and later by national protests in the wake of the police murders of George Floyd and Breonna Taylor (2020), the 2020, 2021, and 2022 SVPIs illustrated the persistent racial discrimination in employment, education, and housing as well as the general income/wealth inequality that were exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic and continue to define our region.

In contrast, the 4th Annual (2023) SVPI features new data that highlights the region's persistent inequalities, and the **astronomical concentration of wealth into the hands of an incredibly small number of households and companies**. As Russel Hancock, President and CEO of Joint Venture Silicon Valley, asserted, "If Silicon Valley were a country, that kind of wealth disparity would be considered politically unstable."ⁱⁱ

To improve on previous reports, the *2023 SVPI* **now includes infographics** (see last 3 pages of this report document) and extended research into multiple themes, reflecting a more robust collection and presentation of available data. This was possible thanks to funding from the Heising-Simons Foundation that allowed for an expansion of the SVPI project team to include our colleagues, Dr. Anji Bucker from the SJSU Department of Public Health and Recreation, Debbie Andres from the SJSU Office of Sustainability, Jahmal Williams, SJSU Director of Advocacy for Racial Justice, as well as SJSU undergraduate students Gisselle Escobar Quiroz, Eleana Paneda, Jaylin Flores, Ariana Shaw, and Vaishnavi Sunkari. In addition, Dr. Scott Myers-Lipton thanks the Silicon Valley Community Foundation [SVCF] for continuing to support his work.

By consistently exposing structured inequalities as human rights crises, the [SJSU Human Rights Institute](#)'s hope is that City Council members, County Supervisors, State Legislators, members of Congress, scholars, journalists, stakeholders, and community organizations will use the *2023 SVPI* to inform future policy and practice.

The SVPI authors and SJSU HRI welcome and invite such policy proposals. Further, organizations or public agencies interested in developing their own "pain index" should please contact the authors or the SJSU Human Rights Institute for information and potential support.

ⁱⁱ <https://www.sfchronicle.com/tech/article/Report-Silicon-Valley-s-population-declined-16921277.php>

Sample Policy Solutions Inspired by the SVPI:
 SB 333 – Guaranteed Income for Homeless High School Seniors in California

The HRI is very thankful to have worked with State Senator Dave Cortese and his staff on developing a significant policy solution to youth homelessness in California. San José leads the nation in young adult homelessness (ages 18-24), and homelessness remains a human rights crisis in our region.ⁱⁱⁱ SB 333 will provide \$1,000 guaranteed basic income payments to graduating high school seniors experiencing housing insecurity to assist in the transition to (for example) higher education, job training, or employment.

DAVE CORTESE
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GUARANTEED INCOME TO HOMELESS HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS

May 22, 2023

The State Senate advanced legislation by Senator Dave Cortese on Monday establishing a statewide guaranteed income program for homeless students. SB 333 would give unhoused students finishing high school \$1,000 a month for five months to help them enroll in college or enter the workforce.

"I applaud my Senate colleagues for protecting California's most vulnerable students during a crucial time. High schools offer homeless students a support network that can include free counseling, school supplies, transportation and meals. But when these students exit high school, all that school support goes away. It's the worst time to rip away a young person's support system," said **Senator Cortese (D-San Jose)**. "Why graduate up to 15,000 kids into life on the streets? Let's break the cycle of poverty with guaranteed income for those few crucial months when young people have the energy, optimism and passion to get into a good college or career."

SB 333 now advances to policy committees in the State Assembly.

Approximately 270,000 students within California's K-12 school system are experiencing homelessness, according to a 2020 **report** by UCLA's Center for the Transformation of Schools. That number has grown by nearly half over the past decade. About 15,000 of these unhoused students are in the 12th grade.

School districts support unhoused students with funding from the federal McKinney-Vento Act. However, the law only applies to currently enrolled students. Moreover, while federal and state law provide extensive financial aid to homeless youth attending higher education, the aid does not become available until the student enters college in the fall. As a result, many young people experience a phenomenon known as *summer melt*, where the student gets into college, but then their chance of actually making it into the classroom melts away. A **recent survey** found that more than 90 percent of unhoused youth respondents described a career goal that required education beyond high school, but only 16 percent believed they would be able to attend or graduate college within the succeeding five years.

SB 333 would establish a guaranteed income pilot program known as the Success, Opportunity, & Academic Resilience (SOAR). The funding would be eligible to all unhoused students who have finished high school and lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence. Direct cash payments from SB 333 would be awarded from April to August 2025.

Senator Cortese is dedicated to giving vulnerable populations the tools to improve their lives through guaranteed income. In 2020, Senator Cortese, then a Santa Clara County Supervisor, helped create a universal basic income program to serve transition-age foster youth in Santa Clara County. In 2021, that pilot program was scaled statewide under Senator Cortese's SB 739.

In 2022, SJSU Professor Scott Myers-Lipton released the **Silicon Valley Pain Index**, which inspired legislation (SB 1341) that was a former iteration of SB 333, proposing direct cash payments to unhoused students finishing high school. Also last year, Senator Cortese pushed for a local version of the program in Santa Clara County. That local program is expected to launch in 2024.

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ⁱⁱⁱ <https://sanjosespotlight.com/san-jose-the-no-1-u-s-city-in-youth-homelessness/>

How to read the 2023 Silicon Valley Pain Index:

The *2023 Silicon Valley Pain Index* is a meta-analysis of over 60 recent studies and reports conducted on Silicon Valley, primarily published in the year since the release of the third report in June 2022. The *2023 SVPI* is composed of over 110 statistics laid out from the number 0 to 1.5 trillion and is designed to be read from start to finish. There is a power in reading it this way, as the inequality is dramatized as the numbers increase.

Readers might note how African American, Latinx, Indigenous, and various Asian American communities continue to receive considerably less of the economic, political, education, and social rewards of Silicon Valley. In the *2023 SVPI*, the racial inequalities noted in the 2020, 2021, and 2022 SVPI persist.

Dr. Martin Luther King said that there was a “curious formula” dating back to the “3/5ths compromise” in the writing of the US Constitution in 1787, where a black person was defined as 60% of a human being when determining taxation and representation. According to King, this initial principle of a “curious formula”^{iv} held in the 1960s, where Blacks received one-half of the good things in life, and two times the bad, when compared to Whites. The *2023 SVPI* shows that a similar “curious formula” still exists today in Silicon Valley, whether it be in home ownership (26%-Blacks vs. 63%-Whites), per capita income (\$44,606-Blacks vs. \$91,852-Whites), poverty (Blacks-16% vs. Whites-5%), average annual wages in dollars for full-time workers, (\$78,000-Blacks vs. \$142,000-Whites), or unemployment (Blacks filing 2.4 times rate of Whites). Of course, in Silicon Valley, other people of color, particularly Latinos and Native Americans, and some Asian American groups (e.g., Vietnamese and Filipino Americans) also find themselves part of this curious formula, though with different historical roots relative to the history of white supremacist ideology and the imperial conquest of the American West.

In addition, the *2023 SVPI* reports what has changed, both in the past year, and since the COVID-19 pandemic began. For example, the *2023 SVPI* shows that the following areas have all become worse with regard to the “enabling environment”^v necessary for human rights practices in the past year:

- Equity gap between underrepresented minority and white students’ 6-year SJSU graduation rates
- Eviction Filings
- Fentanyl overdose deaths

^{iv} <http://www.blackhistoryheroes.com/2011/01/dr-martin-luther-king-jr-atlanta-speech.html>

^v This is part of any member state’s obligation upon ratification of a human rights instrument or treaty to “fulfill” the obligations of the treaty. An “enabling environment” is one where those under the member state’s purview can reasonably access and exercise the rights articulated in the ratified instrument/treaty. For instance, providing public schools and transportation infrastructure might be considered part of providing an “enabling environment” to exercise one’s right to education according to the ICESCR.

- Food insecurity
- Houseless families with children
- Monthly mortgage payments
- Monthly rent

Moreover, the *2023 SVPI* shows the following inequalities have become worse since before the pandemic, in 2019:

- Median household income
- Wage gap between men and women

High overall income inequality is evident from data suggesting that Silicon Valley's Absolute Gini Index score is over 70 (0 reflects perfectly equal and 100 represents completely unequal distributions of income). In comparison, the broader U.S. and State of California have already high Absolute Gini Index scores of 60 and 58 respectively.^{vi}

Finally, as mentioned, **the 2023 SVPI will have a special focus on structured wealth inequality and concentration of wealth.** When it comes to wealth, a much more "curious" formula must be applied to understand Silicon Valley. Wealth disparity in our region is severe, reflecting astronomical gaps between a small super-rich (also members of the global or transnational owning class) and a majority of the local population, including a diverse local working class. Specifically, the *2023 SVPI* reports the staggering wealth of the .001, .01, and .1 percent; where previously data was only available for the 1%. This new data shows the staggering wealth concentration of the Silicon Valley's extreme billionaires (.001%) and billionaires (.01%), who are mostly white, older, and male. In Silicon Valley, the .001 and .01% are approximately 90% male, 72% White, and the median age is 59, compared to Silicon Valley households, which are 50% women, 29% White, and the median age is 38. In other words, a very small white billionaire class can be contrasted with an essential local workforce with significant numbers of women and people of color.

In Silicon Valley and beyond, this concentration of wealth into the hands of extreme billionaires (.001%) and billionaires (.01%) is having **profound implications for our democracy**, as the ultra-rich use their wealth to influence public policy by creating think tanks, hiring lobbyists, and providing nearly half of the total share of campaign contributions in the nation. For example, from 1980 to 2012, the top .01% and above in the U.S. increased their share of campaign contributions from 15% to more than 40%, and in the opening phase of the 2016 Presidential

^{vi} For more on these scores and the differences between absolute and relative Gini Coefficients, please see here: <https://siliconvalleyindicators.org/data/economy/income/household-income/gini-coefficients-of-income-inequality/#:~:text=The%20Absolute%20Gini%20Coefficient%20is,to%20which%20incomes%20are%20concentrat ed.> For scholarship on how Absolute Gini Coefficients are more reliable measures of income inequality, please see here: [https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0165176517302926.](https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0165176517302926)

elections, 158 individuals gave nearly 50% of the total campaign contributions to the Republican and Democratic candidates. In 2022, 50 individuals provided \$1.1 billion to political action committees and campaigns for the midterms.^{vii} Such conditions are those of a plutocracy, where competing capital interests (owners and managers) are able to capture and/or heavily influence the state, public institutions, and the media, and wealthy elites dominate American policy and politics as a result. This first flies in the face of “liberal democratic values” that undergird civil and political human rights. Second, such a skewed distribution of resources makes it nearly impossible to imagine the provision of basic economic human rights (education, health care, housing, a decent standard of living, etc.) to a majority of the local population.

Selected highlights of the 2023 SVPI are displayed in the infographic below, with the full index beginning on the following page. To view the sources of the 2023 SVPI, please see the endnotes.

^{vii} See the following for statistics on campaign contributions: <https://www.motherjones.com/kevin-drum/2015/04/one-percent-campaign-giving/>, <https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2015/10/11/us/politics/2016-presidential-election-super-pac-donors.html>, <https://duckduckgo.com/?t=ffab&q=n+2022%2C+50+individuals+provided+%241.1+billion+to+the+political+committees+for+the+midterms.&atb=v242-1&ia=web>.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

2023 SILICON VALLEY PAIN INDEX

If Silicon Valley was a nation, it would be deemed politically unstable

0	Number of Black residents making less than \$35,000 living in Los Altos Hills, Los Gatos, and Monte Sereno; Los Alto Hills has 150+ low-income White households.
.001	Percent of households in Silicon Valley that own \$260 billion of total wealth; \$50 billion is liquid wealth, which is 6x more than the bottom 50% or 500,000 households.
1	Ranking of San José in youth homelessness in the U.S., with a rate of 85 unhoused young adults (age 18-24) for every 100,000 residents.
3	Ranking of San José State for poorest facility conditions in the CSU system, which has 23 campuses.
16	Percent of African Americans in poverty, compared to Vietnamese Americans (10%), Latinos (9%), Filipinos (7%), Koreans (5%), Whites (5%) and Asian Indians (2%).
28	Percent of Silicon Valley households that do not earn enough money to meet their most basic needs without assistance (public and private).
160	Overdose deaths by fentanyl in Santa Clara County in 2022, 14.5x that of 2018. Fentanyl OD deaths in SCC rose about 4x the rate of California between 2018-2021.
17,788	Amount in dollars spent per pupil in Alum Rock schools, where 79% are economically disadvantaged vs. Saratoga schools at 3%, while spending \$6,000 more per pupil.
59,000	Amount in dollars of the wage gap between male and female workers with a bachelor's degree, a \$7,500 increase from 2019.
460,000	Number of clients that Second Harvest of Silicon Valley provides groceries for each month on average, up 10,000 from last year, and an 80% increase since 2019.
72 million	Amount in dollars that Google, Adobe, Intel, and Zoom donated to local nonprofits in 2021, which was about .02% of their total revenue.
280 billion	Amount in dollars of Google's revenue, up from \$258 billion in 2021, and \$183 billion in 2020.

2023 SILICON VALLEY PAIN INDEX

- 0 Number of African American residents making less than \$35K living in three cities in Santa Clara County (i.e., Los Altos Hills, Los Gatos, and Monte Sereno). In Los Altos Hills, there are more than 150 low-income households, and all are White.¹
- .001 Percent of households (eight individuals/households holding \$10 billion+) in Silicon Valley that own \$260 billion in total wealth (\$50 billion in liquid assets or cash, which is 6x more than the total wealth of the bottom 50% of the region, or about 500,000 households, combined).²
- .01 Percent of households (56 individuals/families holding \$1 billion+) in Silicon Valley that owns \$323 billion of total wealth, with \$63 billion in liquid wealth.³
- .1 Percent of households (about 950) that own \$122 billion in liquid wealth.
Note: When looking at total wealth in the U.S., the top .1% increased their net worth by 71% during the pandemic, from \$12.5 trillion in 2020 to \$17.6 trillion by the end of 2022.⁴
- 1 Percent of households (about 9,500) that owns 37% of the Silicon Valley’s liquid wealth, which is 48 times more wealth than the bottom 50% of regional households combined.
Note: In the United States, the top 1% has 23 times more wealth than the bottom 50%.⁵
- 1 Ranking of San José in youth homelessness in the nation, with 85 unhoused young adults (age 18-24) for every 100,000 residents.⁶
- 2 Percent of Latinas in the tech sector, even though Latinas are about 13% of the population in Santa Clara County.⁷
- 2.4 Rate at which African Americans are filing unemployment insurance claims in comparison to that of Whites.⁸
- 3 Percent of Santa Clara County that is African American. Less than 1% of the public contracts in the County go to African American vendors.⁹
- 3 Number of cities in Santa Clara County (i.e., Cupertino, Palo Alto, Santa Clara) that did not put forward a plan on affordable housing by the deadline in 2022, which is required by new state laws.¹⁰
- 3 Ranking of San José State University for poorest facility conditions within the CSU system, which has 23 universities.¹¹

- 3.7 Number of minimum-wage jobs needed to cover the cost of a two-bedroom apartment in San José.¹²
- 5.5 Number of months that the San José Police Department has not hired a senior analyst to advance its racial equity goals as of June 13, 2023.¹³
- 6.8 Percent increase of inflation in June, 2022 from previous year for the entire SF Bay Area region, which was the peak. In April, 2023 the inflation rate was 4.2%.¹⁴
- 8 Percent of homes that were sold in 2022 that were below \$600,000; 28% were sold to buyers paying in cash.¹⁵
- 9.9 Percent drop in reading and writing, along with a 10.3% drop in math scores at Alum Rock Union School District in 2022 which serves 8,500 students, while in the Campbell Union High School District, which serves 8,900 students, it had less than a 1% decrease in math scores and a 2.8% increase in reading and writing scores.¹⁶
- 10 Percent of households (about 95,500) that own 66% of the liquid wealth in Silicon Valley.¹⁷
- 11 Average wait time in hours to receive emergency services at the Santa Clara County Valley Medical Center (VMC), while the wait time for an ultrasound is six weeks and for an MRI SCAN is 3-4 months.¹⁸
- 13 Percent less likely for a woman to be interviewed for a tech position than a man; 33% of tech job interviews only interview men.¹⁹
- 19 Number of hate crimes (i.e., physical action with a motivation based on prejudice) that were charged by the Santa Clara County District Attorney’s Office. These crimes were directed at African Americans, Asian Americans, Latinos, LGBTQ+ people, and Muslims.²⁰
- 14 Percent of Black and Latino households who can afford a median-priced home. Further, only 27% of *all* Silicon Valley residents can afford a median-priced home.²¹
- 16 Percent of African Americans in poverty, compared to Vietnamese Americans (10%), Latino (9%), Filipino (7%), Korean (5%), White (5%) and Asian Indian (2%).²²
- 16 Percent of middle school and high school female identifying students who have considered suicide (7% for students identifying as male).²³
- 16.3 Equity gap between underrepresented minority students’ (e.g., African American, Latino, and Native American) six-year graduation rate at SJSU and White students from 2016-2022. The equity gap increased 2.6% from 2015-2021.²⁴

- 17 Dollar amount of San José’s minimum wage, which ranks the city 7th among the 15 cities in Santa Clara County, even though San José was a national leader in 2012. Mountain View’s minimum wage is \$18.10, while Los Altos Hills, Los Gatos, and Saratoga require a minimum wage of \$15.50.²⁵
- 17.6 Percent increase in funding for the San José Police Department since 2019 (i.e., \$498 million total spending in 2022).²⁶
- 18 Percent of Whites in Silicon Valley that think racism is an “extremely serious problem” compared to 39% of African Americans, 30% of Latinos and 29% of Asian Americans/Pacific Islanders.²⁷
- 20 Percent decrease in homes listed on the available market from the previous year, which is the highest drop in housing supply in the nation.²⁸
- 21 Number of schools and childcare centers surrounding the Reid-Hillview Airport, where children’s blood tests were found with elevated levels of lead on par with the lead levels in children during the height of the Flint, Michigan water crisis.²⁹
- 26 Percent of Black homeownership in Santa Clara County, versus 63% for Whites. This gap has widened since 2015 when it was 35% vs. 60%.³⁰
- 27 Percent of city and county managers in Silicon Valley that are women.³¹
- 28 Percent of Silicon Valley households that do not earn enough money to meet their most basic needs without assistance (public and private).³²
- 32 Ranking of San José City’s Parks out of the 100 largest U.S. cities when looking at resident proximity to parks, park size, and amenities. San José has a \$464 million park maintenance backlog for repairs.³³
- 33 Percent of wealth owned by the 10.01% to 49.99% of households (i.e., those making between \$50,000 and \$400,000).³⁴
- 34 Number of community members that responded to Milpitas Union Schools Districts request to open up a “room or a small space” for teachers in their district due to the high cost of rent.³⁵
- 37 Percent students not meeting English standards in 2022—a 2.6% point drop from before the pandemic in 2019.³⁶
- 40 Percent of LGBTQ+ Santa Clara County residents 50+ years old who report to being discriminated against within the past several years due to being perceived as LGBTQ+.³⁷

- 43 Percent of transgender, nonbinary, intersex, and gender expansive [TGNB] people in a 2022 study in Santa Clara County who reported difficulty finding work in their field; 76% of those participants attributed this difficulty to their TGNB identity.³⁸
- 45 Percent reduction of software-related job postings in San José metro area since just before the pandemic; information technology postings have dropped 37%.³⁹
- 46 Percent TGNB residents who have bachelor's degrees in Santa Clara County, yet 42% had an income under \$25,000, and 70% report struggling to get by.⁴⁰
- 47 Percent of the tech layoffs who are women from September to December 2022, even though women represent 39% of tech workers.⁴¹
- 48.6 Percent of students not meeting math standards in 2022, a 5.2% point drop from before the pandemic in 2019.⁴²
- 49 Percent of residents who do not have air conditioning in their homes in Santa Clara County. With only 14 cooling centers total in the County, there is only one cooling center per 134,642 people.⁴³
- 50 Percent of renters who are burdened by housing costs, which means they are spending more than 30% of their income on housing. This figure jumps to 58% for renters above 65.⁴⁴
- 50 San José's ranking out of 50 metro areas in the U.S. in price-to-rent ratio (38)—the city remains one of the most difficult in the country to purchase a home.⁴⁵
- 54 Percent of households (220,000) that hold 1% of the collective wealth in Silicon Valley. These households generally hold less than \$5,000 in cash and other assets.⁴⁶
- 56 Ratio of liquid assets of Silicon Valley residents to that of the 39 city governments, up from 48 in 2018; if Ultra High Net Worth (UHNW) households (assets of \$30+ million) are included it grew to 72.⁴⁷
- 57 Percent of jobs in San José that are tied to the tech sector, with the median tech salary in California being \$120,000.⁴⁸
- 61 Percent higher wages that White workers with a bachelor's degree receive in comparison to Latino workers with a bachelor's degree.⁴⁹
- 62 Percent higher wages that White workers with a bachelor's degree receive in comparison to African American workers with a bachelor's degree.⁵⁰

- 62 Number of sexual assaults that the Santa Clara County District Attorney’s Office believes occurred when passengers rode with Uber in 2018-2019.⁵¹
- 65 Number of traffic fatalities involving pedestrians, motorcycles, and cyclists in San José in 2022, which was an all-time high; 32 were pedestrians.⁵²
- 67 Percent of LGBTQ+ Santa Clara County residents who are 50+ years old and report living in poverty, even though they have completed some college or more.⁵³
- 70 Coefficient score of income inequality in Silicon Valley on the Absolute Gini Index (where a score of 0 reflects a perfectly equal and 100 represents a completely unequal distribution of income), up 5 points from 2019, while California and the U.S. are down 1 and 3 points respectively.⁵⁴
- 81.2 Percent of Santa Clara County residents of color that live in areas with unsafe levels of nitrogen dioxide, a harmful gas found in fuel exhaust.⁵⁵
- 86 Percent of jobs held by African Americans at Apple Inc. that are lower-paid sales or administrative support roles.⁵⁶
- 90 Percent of Santa Clara Valley Medical Care (VMC) doctors report that the County is not providing enough resources and workers to support them, while 76% of the doctors believe that VMC is not providing adequate care to patients.⁵⁷
- 99 Percent risk of a three-foot flood in Silicon Valley between today and 2050, which would submerge 29,748 homes, 27 schools, 147 hazardous waste sites, and 212 EPA-listed contaminated sites in flood waters.⁵⁸
- 99.8 FEMA risk index score of Santa Clara County, which is considered “very high.” This is double the national average due to the increased risk of coastal flooding, droughts, heat waves, wildfires, landslides, and earthquakes.⁵⁹
- 160 Number of overdose deaths by fentanyl in Santa Clara County in 2022. Incredibly, this is 14.5x the number of fentanyl deaths in 2018. A vast majority of 2022 deaths (109) were in San José. Further, between 2018 and 2021 fentanyl overdose deaths increased by 12x in Santa Clara County, four times the increase for the state of California (3x) in the same period.⁶⁰
- 200 Number of county-employed doctors out of 288 who state they plan to leave Santa Clara Valley Medical Care (VMC) in the next three years.⁶¹
- 246 Number of houseless people who died on the streets of Santa Clara County in 2022, down four people from 250 in 2021.⁶²

- 295 Number of eviction filings of multi-family properties in November 2022 (116 in December), which is a significant increase from 22 notices in April 2022, the first month landlords could file evictions after the suspension of state protections against evictions.⁶³
- 300 Number of “ghost” guns that Santa Clara County law enforcement agencies took off of the streets in 2021, which is more than double that of the previous year.⁶⁴
- 362 Number of San José police officers that received one complaint from the public about their conduct (i.e., 33% of force), an increase for the 3rd year in a row (66 officers had 2 complaints, 20 officers had 3, and 8 officers had 4 complaints).⁶⁵
- 400 Number of temporary homes for the unhoused that have been completed since 2021, when the mayor established the goal of building 1,000 interim homes.⁶⁶
- 400 Number of instances of discriminatory language found so far in Santa Clara County’s project to rid discriminatory language from county property records.⁶⁷
- 550 Amount in dollars of the decline in median household income since 2019 because the Consumer Price Index has increased faster than income gains.⁶⁸
- 570 Number of childcare businesses that have closed in Santa Clara County since July 2020.⁶⁹
- 600 Number of families that become homeless each year in Santa Clara County.⁷⁰
- 600 Number of parts per billion (ppb) of lead in the drinking water of a child care center in the Alum Rock neighborhood, which is 120 times the limit of 5 ppb allowed.⁷¹
- 739 Amount in dollars of the average monthly costs of transportation in Silicon Valley for a family of four, a 40% increase since 2018.⁷²
- 789 Number of housing units built for the homeless, under construction or about to break ground in San José by the end of 2022. The city’s goal was 1,695 units, set in 2021.⁷³
- 891 Number of houseless families (i.e., people with children) in San José on a single night in January, 2023, up from 401 the previous year.⁷⁴
- 1,004 Number of new San José metro apartments built in 2022, down 50% from last year. In the same time, Austin and Houston built over 4,000 apartments, while Seattle and Miami built 3,000.⁷⁵
- 1,191 Ratio of students to one psychologist at Santa Clara County schools, which is 15% below the state average (i.e., 1,041 to 1).⁷⁶

1,226	Number of houseless families (i.e., people with children) in Santa Clara County, up from 891 the previous year, with 20% unsheltered. ⁷⁷
2050	Year the water in the San Francisco Bay, which surrounds Silicon Valley, will rise 1-2 feet. ⁷⁸
2100	Year the water in the San Francisco Bay will rise 5-7 feet. ⁷⁹
2,549	Median monthly rent in dollars for a 2-bedroom in the San José metro area, which is a 3% increase from the previous year. ⁸⁰
2,853	Number of aggravated assaults in San José in 2022, the highest level since 2002. ⁸¹
4,176	Median monthly rent in dollars in the San José, which is over a 6% increase from the previous year. ⁸²
4,316	Number of San José homes that are off-market, empty homes. ⁸³
4,705	Number of apartments available in San José in March, 2023; Silicon Valley apartments have a 4.4% vacancy rate, with units empty on average for 35 days. ⁸⁴
5,000	Number of K-12 students that have left Santa Clara County in past year, which is a 2% drop. ⁸⁵
6,340	Number of houseless people in San José on a single night in January, 2023, a 5% drop from the year before. ⁸⁶
9,903	Number of houseless people in Santa Clara County on a single night in January, 2023, a 1% drop from the year before; with about two-thirds living in encampments or other places not designed for habitation. ⁸⁷
11,300	Amount in dollars of monthly mortgage payments in San José, up 47% from the previous year due to increase interest rates. This makes the typical home 165% more expensive to purchase than rent, the highest difference among the biggest 50 metro areas. ⁸⁸
12,400	Amount in dollars of the wage gap between male and female identified workers without a high school diploma, a \$5,300 increase from 2019. ⁸⁹
13,769	Number of San José homes that are non-occupied (i.e., those homes that are for rent, waiting to be sold, or not on the market). ⁹⁰

17,788	Amount in dollars spent per pupil in Alum Rock Union School District, where 79% of the students are socioeconomically disadvantaged. In contrast, Saratoga Union Elementary School spends \$6,000 more per pupil (i.e., \$23,755) and only 3% of students are considered socioeconomically disadvantaged. ⁹¹
21,900	Approximate cost in dollars per year for a preschooler's child care. ⁹²
26,450	Approximate cost in dollars per year for infant care in Silicon Valley. ⁹³
32,252	Average in dollars of per capita income for Latino workers, who trail African Americans (\$44,606), Asian Americans (\$71,667) and Whites (\$91,852).
36,120	Number of visits to SJSU Food Pantry by 3,855 unique students in AY 22-23, up from 25,560 visits (29% increase) and 2,874 unique students from previous year (25% increase). Note: This figure is from internal SJSU Cares Data sent directly to the lead author.
49,500	Average annual income in dollars for service workers (about \$24 per hour, full-time, year-round). ⁹⁴
59,000	Amount in dollars of the wage gap between male and female identified workers with a bachelor's degree, a \$7,500 increase from 2019. ⁹⁵
60,000	Average annual wages in dollars for full-time Latino workers, who trail African Americans (\$78,000), Asian Americans (\$122,000) and Whites (\$142,000). Blacks and Latinos had an inflation-adjusted growth rate of less than 1% over the past 5 years, the lowest among all groups. ⁹⁶
155,000	Number of CalFresh (California Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) who are enrolled to receive food assistance, up 10,000 from 2021. ⁹⁷
179,000	Average annual income earnings (i.e., wages and supplements) for workers. ⁹⁸
193,000	Number of Silicon Valley homes and businesses without power during the atmospheric river event in March 2023. ⁹⁹
245,234	Amount in dollars that a buyer needs to earn to purchase the average cost for a two-bedroom home in San José. ¹⁰⁰
460,000	Number of clients that Second Harvest of Silicon Valley provides groceries for each month on average, up 10,000 households from last year, and an increase of 80% since pre-pandemic. ¹⁰¹

550,000	Number of guns owned in Santa Clara County, which is one gun for every four people. ¹⁰²
976,482	Number of residents in San José in 2022—a drop of 1.48% from the previous year. This is the first time since 2013 that San José fell below one million residents. ¹⁰³
1.33 Million	Median sales price in dollars for an existing single-family home in San José, down 14.4% from previous year. ¹⁰⁴
1.53 Million	Median sales price in dollars of an existing home in Silicon Valley in 2022, up 7% from previous year; 76% of homes sold were above \$1 million. ¹⁰⁵
33 Million	Amount in dollars of San José State’s “renewal needs” for its academic facilities, ranking it the highest among the 23 campus CSU system. ¹⁰⁶
42 Million	Amount in dollars pulled out of Silicon Valley Bank on March 9, 2023, which led to the bank’s failure. ¹⁰⁷
72 Million	Amount in dollars that Zoom, Google, Intel and Adobe donated to local nonprofits in 2021, where each donated only between 0.01% and 0.03% of their total revenue. ¹⁰⁸
689 Million	Amount in dollars of the cost of the new Santa Clara County jail, up 177% from an estimated \$390 million in January 2022; plans to build the jail are currently on hold. ¹⁰⁹
280 Billion	Amount in dollars of Google’s revenue, up from \$258 billion in 2021, and \$183 billion in 2020. ¹¹⁰
382 Billion	Amount in dollars of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of Santa Clara County, an increase of 19% from 2019; if the county were a nation, it would be ranked as the 38th largest world economy. ¹¹¹
394 Billion	Amount in dollars of Apple Inc.’s revenue in 2022, up from \$366 billion from 2021, and \$275 billion in 2020. ¹¹²
1 Trillion	Total market capitalization of Nvidia Corporation in May of 2023; Nvidia joins Apple (\$2.7T) and Alphabet Inc. (formerly Google, \$1.6T) as corporations with trillion-dollar + valuations, and is the first \$1T microchip producer in U.S. history. ¹¹³

- 1.1 Trillion Total household wealth in Silicon Valley in dollars (e.g., cash accounts, stocks, options, bonds, mutual funds, managed accounts, hedge funds, exchange traded fund, annuities, education/custodial accounts, retirement accounts, and cash-value life insurance).¹¹⁴
- 1.5 Trillion Total household wealth in Silicon Valley in dollars if one also factors in the value of real estate assets.¹¹⁵

¹ <https://bayareaequityatlas.org/mapping-segregation>; <https://www.mercurynews.com/2022/08/19/one-in-10-bay-area-neighborhoods-is-highly-segregated-enclave-of-white-wealth-new-report-says/>

² www.jointventure.org/publications/silicon-valley-index. Please note again that Joint Venture statistics include Santa Clara County, San Mateo County, and the cities of Fremont, Newark, Union City, and Scotts Valley.

³ <https://jointventure.org/images/stories/pdf/index2023.pdf>. Please note again that Joint Venture statistics include Santa Clara County, San Mateo County, and the cities of Fremont, Newark, Union City, and Scotts Valley.

⁴ www.jointventure.org/publications/silicon-valley-index; <https://www.marketwatch.com/story/these-8-billionaires-have-more-combined-wealth-than-half-of-silicon-valleys-residents-d52b5fcd>; www.federalreserve.gov/releases/z1/dataviz/dfa/distribute/table/#quarter:126;series:Net%20worth;demographic:networth;population:all;units:levels

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- ¹¹¹ https://www.mercurynews.com/2022/12/16/silicon-valleys-economy-trampled-austin-seattle-by-billions-of-dollars-during-covids-first-two-years/?utm_email=E5E3543DB48CC419F590450494&g2i_eui=LcFhYLu1IeYp8huFFfcaqbfwGsPfVvbn&g2i_source=newsletter&lctg=E5E3543DB48CC419F590450494&active=no;
<https://www.mercurynews.com/2022/01/25/santa-clara-county-will-move-forward-with-390-million-new-jail/>
- ¹¹² <https://www.statista.com/statistics/265125/total-net-sales-of-apple-since-2004/>
- ¹¹³ <https://www.forbes.com/sites/dereksaul/2023/05/30/nvidia-hits-1-trillion-market-value/?sh=7bf60c9a3eab>;
<https://companiesmarketcap.com/>
- ¹¹⁴ www.jointventure.org/publications/silicon-valley-index
- ¹¹⁵ www.jointventure.org/publications/silicon-valley-index

2023 SILICON VALLEY PAIN INDEX

ENVIRONMENTAL AND CLIMATE CHANGE KEY HIGHLIGHTS

Researchers:

Debbie Andres (SJSU Office of Sustainability) Jaylin Flores Eleana Paneda



Santa Clara and San Mateo Counties have a FEMA risk index score of 99— double the national average due to the increased risk of coastal flooding, droughts, heat waves, wildfires, landslides, and earthquakes.

20% of children living within half-mile of Reid-Hillview Airport in San Jose had blood lead levels %20 higher than children outside of that radius due to airport operations.

The airport was built in an area labeled “**extremely undesirable**” due to having the largest concentration of Latinx residents and other people of color.



It will cost \$1 billion to build flood protection for Santa Clara County coastal areas.



There are 320 bills concerning the environment active in the 2023-2024 session in California.



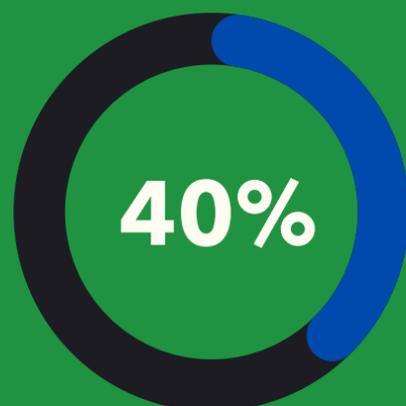
Land surface temperatures in formerly redlined areas are as much as 7 degrees C higher than areas never redlined.



69.6% of those polled from the Bay Area believe the impacts of climate change are a **somewhat or extremely serious problem**.

A “**transit death spiral**” is looming: reduced ridership leads to cuts in service which leads to even more reduction in ridership, which will ultimately only affect those who can least afford private car ownership.

Without emergency funding, Bay Area Rapid Transit has announced they may have to...



Bay Area Rapid Transit monthly ridership is at 40% of pre-pandemic numbers



discontinue weekend service



hike up prices



close stations



increase wait times to 1 hour

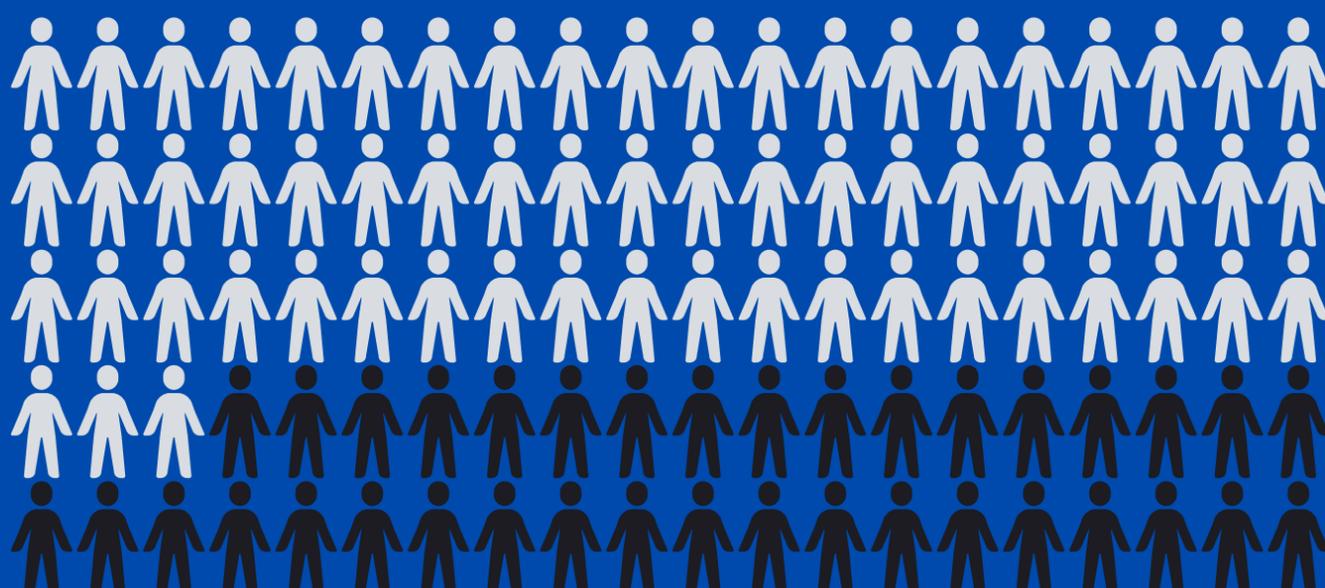
2023 SILICON VALLEY PAIN INDEX

PUBLIC HEALTH KEY HIGHLIGHTS

Researchers:

Dr. Anji Buckner (Public Health and Recreation)

Vaishnavi Sunkari



62.8% of SCC residents had to **forgo needed medical care** due to barriers to such as **transportation, lack of knowledge** on how to navigate the health care system, and **cost**.

2% of students in Santa Clara County receive **mental health support services**, which is far less than the rest of the state (17%).



289 food deserts exist around San Jose



Graphic Prepared by Vaishnavi Sunkari
Data found [here](#).

Data shows that among the options available for community members to get groceries, there are **substantially fewer super-centers and club stores that sell fresh produce** in Santa Clara County (22.2 per 1,000 people) in comparison to the state (48.1 per 1,000).



\$1,000,000 in federal funding will be provided to Santa Clara County Office of Education to help train and hire more mental health professionals across high-need schools.

70%

200 out of 288 county employed doctors **don't** plan to stay at Santa Clara Valley Medical Care (VMC) as of 2022.

People in Santa Clara County owned approximately **550,000 guns** in 2021, amounting to **1 gun for every 4 residents**.



2023 SILICON VALLEY PAIN INDEX

CRIMINAL JUSTICE KEY HIGHLIGHTS

Researchers:

Dr. William Armaline Jahmal Williams (Director of Advocacy for Racial Justice)

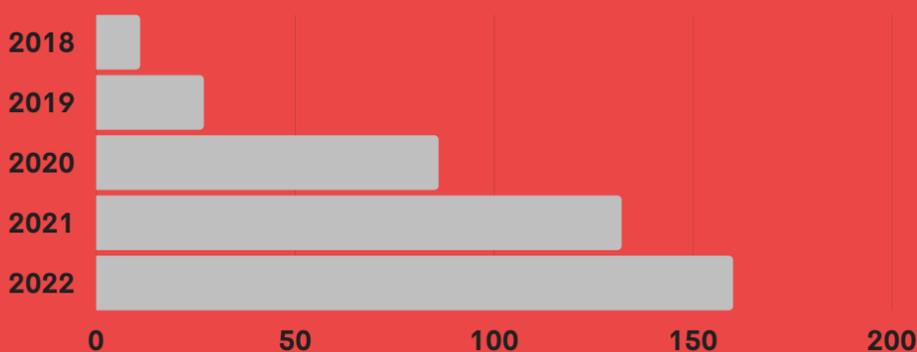
Gisselle Escobar Quiroz Jaylin Flores

Federal Investigation of Police Union Head Amidst Fentanyl Overdose Death Spike

In April of 2023, the U.S. Federal Attorney's office of the Northern District of California filed a shocking [criminal complaint](#) against San José Police Officers Association [SJPOA] Executive Director, Joanne Marian Segovia for the attempted importation of illegal opioids, including synthetic fentanyl, as part of an international "network that was shipping controlled substances into the San Francisco Bay area from abroad." The investigation of this alleged network and the trial of former E.D. Segovia are ongoing at point of publication.

The alleged activities detailed in the federal charges took place during a drastic spike in fentanyl deaths in Santa Clara County since 2020, where an increasing majority of those deaths have occurred in San José. Of course, this does not prove a causal relationship between the alleged network under investigation and local spike in overdose deaths. However, it is a concerning trend that includes the death of at least [one SJPD officer](#) and suggests the need for (1) effective investigative efforts like that of the Northern District Attorney with vigilant community oversight/engagement and (2) appropriate drug abuse prevention/treatment resources. Please see data below from the [County Coroner's Office](#) and the [statewide dashboard](#).

Fentanyl Deaths in Santa Clara County 2018 - 2022



Fentanyl Deaths in Santa Clara County 2021

Other Santa Clara County (71)
53.8%



San Jose (61)
46.2%

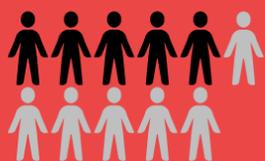
Fentanyl Deaths in Santa Clara County 2022

Other Santa Clara County (51)
31.9%



San Jose (109)
68.1%

Jail Deaths in the U.S. and Santa Clara County



**11 In-Custody Jail Deaths
(5 Suicides) in SCC, 2022 -
June 2023**

Jail deaths are at the **highest rate** in the U.S. since the Bureau of Justice Statistics [BJS] began collecting data in 2000. **Suicide** is the **leading cause of jail deaths** (approximately 30%), and most of these suicides occur within only 7 days of being jailed.

From 2022 - June 2023 **11 people died while in custody** at Santa Clara County Main and Elmwood jail facilities. At least 5 of these deaths were deemed suicides (see data [here](#)).

**Got any comments or want more clarity on the SVPI?
Contact the authors below!**

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