



Office of the City Manager

INFORMATION CALENDAR
June 24, 2025

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council
From: Paul Buddenhagen, City Manager
Submitted by: Scott Gilman, Director, Health, Housing, and Community Services
Subject: State of Public Health in Berkeley Summary Report

INTRODUCTION

This is the annual update from the Health Officer on the State of Public Health in Berkeley, as required by the Future of Public Health grant.

FISCAL IMPACTS OF POSSIBLE FUTURE ACTION

There are no fiscal impacts directly associated with this update.

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

The Department of Health, Housing, and Community Services (HHCS), together with JSI Consulting, initiated work in June 2023 on the City's Community Health Assessment and Improvement Plan process, called the Berkeley Wellness Blueprint. The most recent data available regarding the health status of Berkeley's residents is attached.

Documenting and communicating the health status of community members is an essential function of a Health Officer, and a fundamental step toward identifying and prioritizing steps to improve public health. Additionally, the state's Future of Public Health grant that the City receives requires the Health Officer to provide an update to the community on health status annually. In addition to providing this summary report now, the Public Health Officer will provide a State of Public Health presentation to the Council this fall.

BACKGROUND

A minimum requirement for the Future of Public Health funding is for local health jurisdictions to present annual updates to their Board of Supervisors or City Council.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY AND CLIMATE IMPACTS

There are no environmental sustainability and climate impacts associated directly with the content of this summary report.

CONTACT PERSON

Dr. Noemi Doohan, Public Health Officer, HHCS, 510-981-5308

Attachment:

1: Dashboard Summary

2025 Annual Update

State of Berkeley's Population Health

The Public Health Officer's Unit compiles and updates this data using available sources and the latest data. Much of this data is available in the [Community Health Assessment](#) of the [Berkeley Wellness Blueprint Project](#).

Every population is diverse and unique in it's own way

The population of the City of Berkeley continues to grow. Our community includes people of different races, ethnicities, languages spoken, ages, socioeconomic status, and education levels. It is home to the world-renown University of California, Berkeley. Approximately one-third of Berkeley's overall population are students and staff associated with the university.

120,223

People

Total Population

Berkeley, CA

32.9

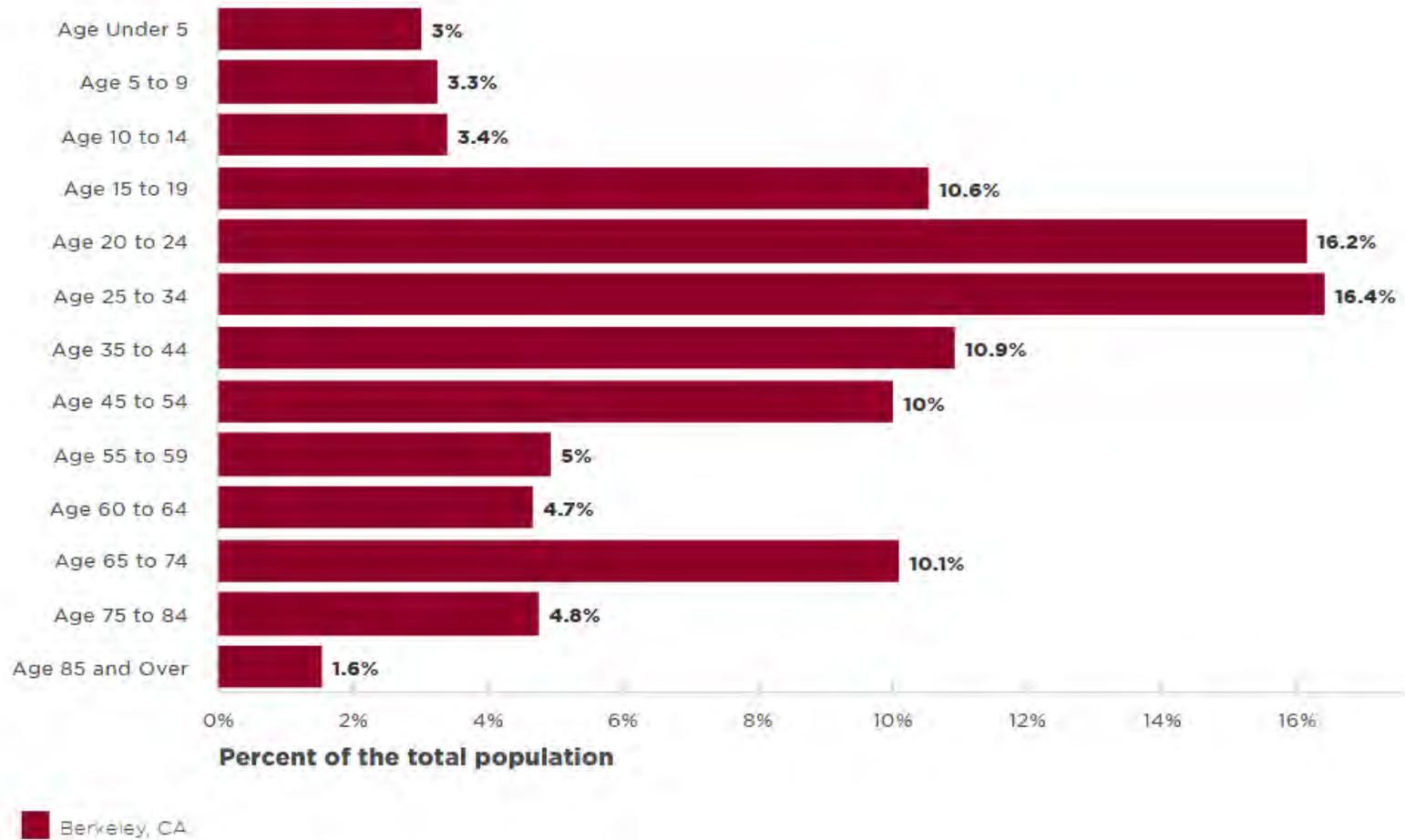
Years

Median Age

Berkeley, CA

Sources: US Census Bureau ACS 5-year 2019-2023

Berkeley is home to people of all ages including a large number of university students



Sources: US Census Bureau ACS 5-year 2019-2023

Cultural and Linguistic Diversity

Close to half (48%) of Berkeley's population identifies as a race other than white. Over 20% of the population in Berkeley are immigrants that speak a number of different languages. Although many are also able to speak English, 6.4% of Berkeley residents are limited in their English proficiency. Some of the other languages spoken in Berkeley include Spanish, Indo-European languages and languages from Asia and the Pacific Islands.


21.3%
 of People
Immigrant Population
 Berkeley, CA

6%
 of People ages 5+
Limited English Proficiency
 Berkeley, CA

Sources: US Census Bureau ACS 5-year 2019-2023

Note: Limited English Proficiency is defined as speaking English less than "very well."

83

Years

Life Expectancy at Birth

Berkeley, CA

\$108,558

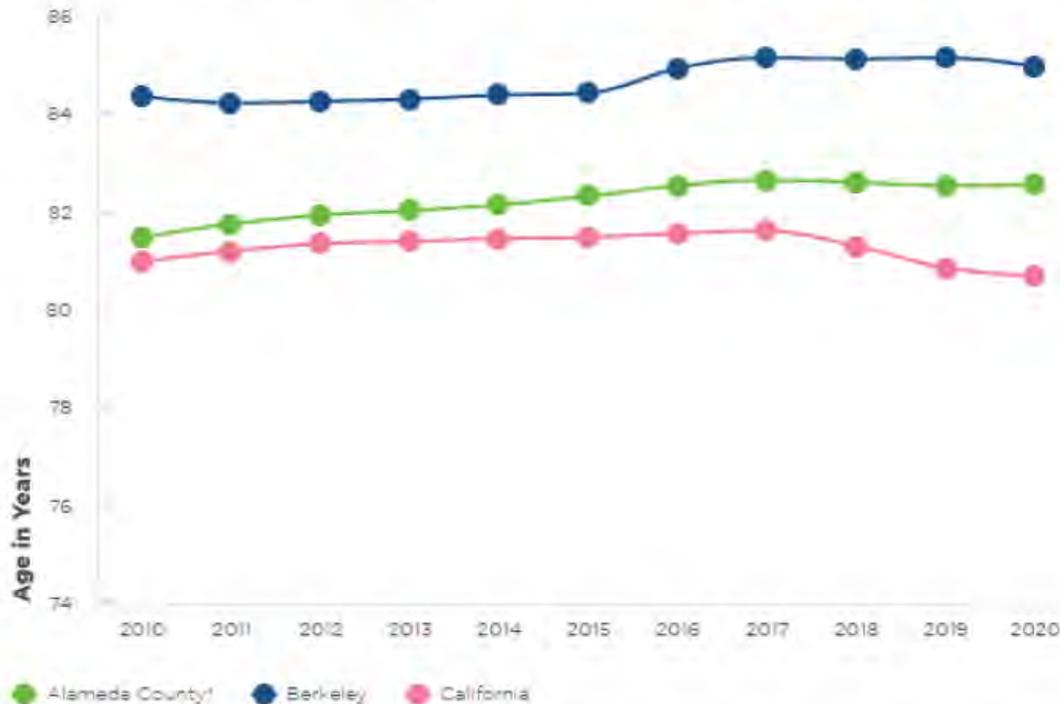
USD

Median Household Income

Berkeley, CA

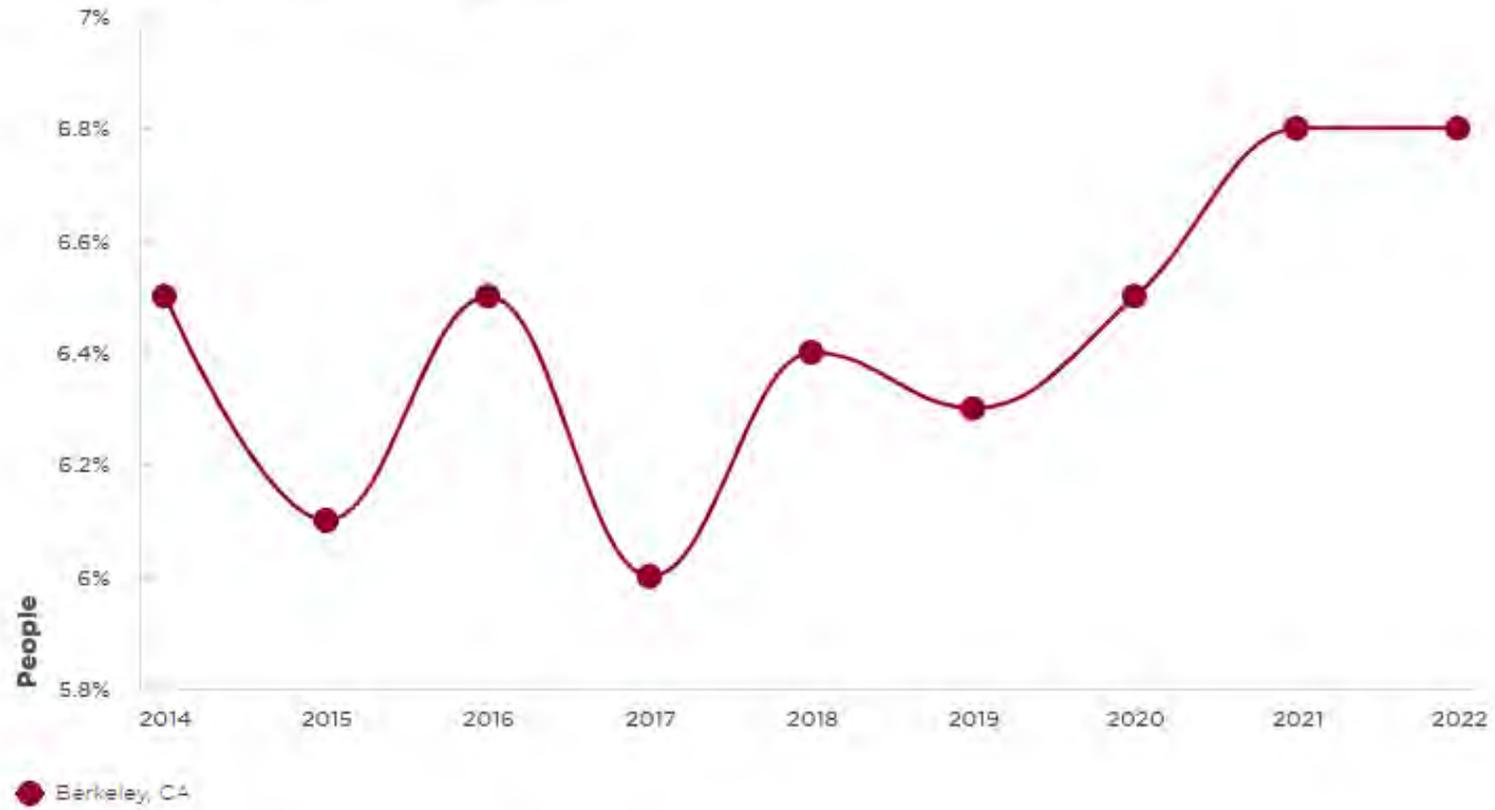
Sources: CDC NCHS USALEEP 2010-2015; US Census Bureau ACS 5-year 2019-2023

Life Expectancy at Birth in Berkeley, Alameda County and California



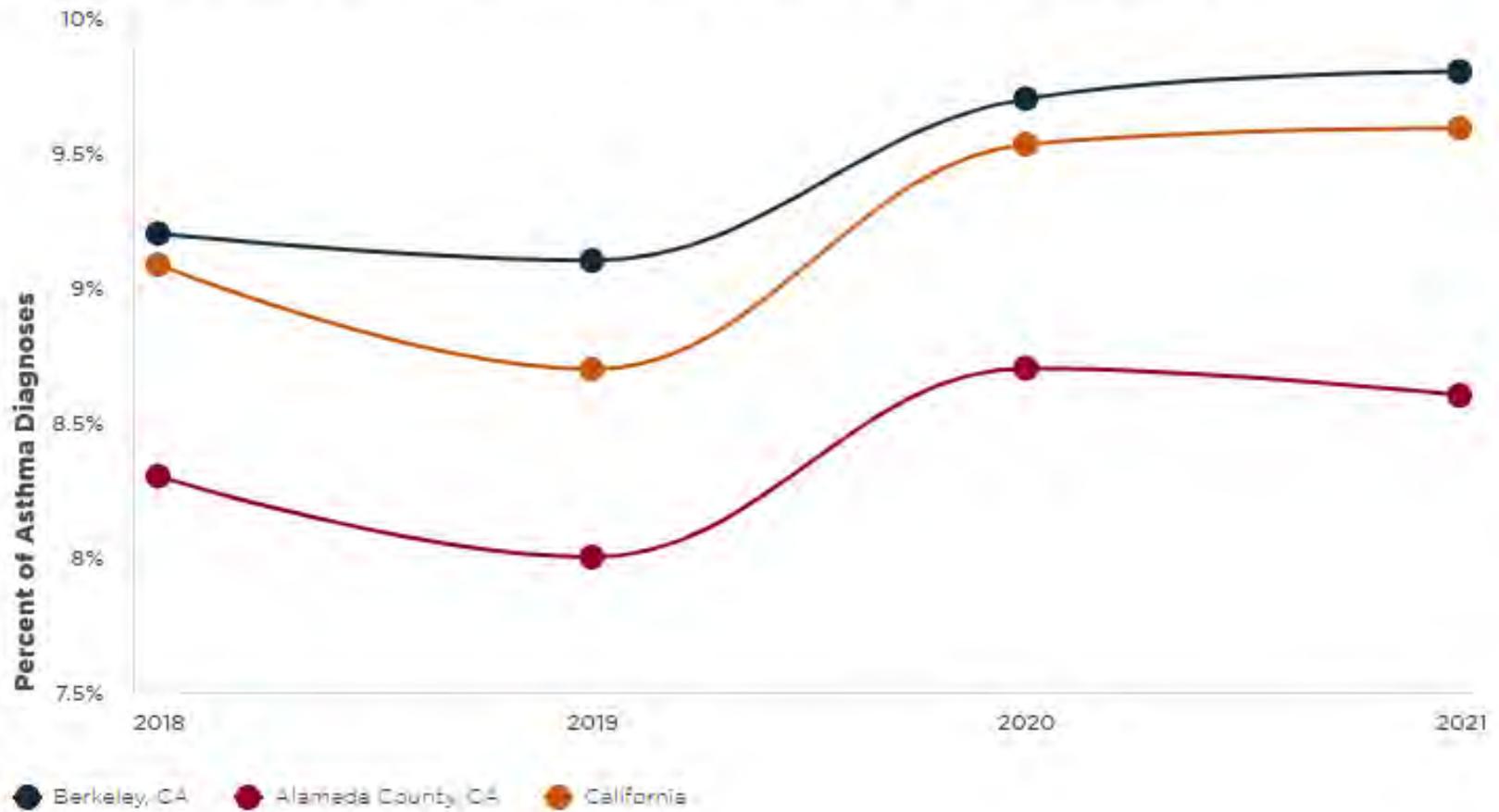
Source: California Department of Public Health, California Community Burden of Disease and Cost Engine
*Estimates are for Alameda County excluding Berkeley

Diagnosed Diabetes Among Adults



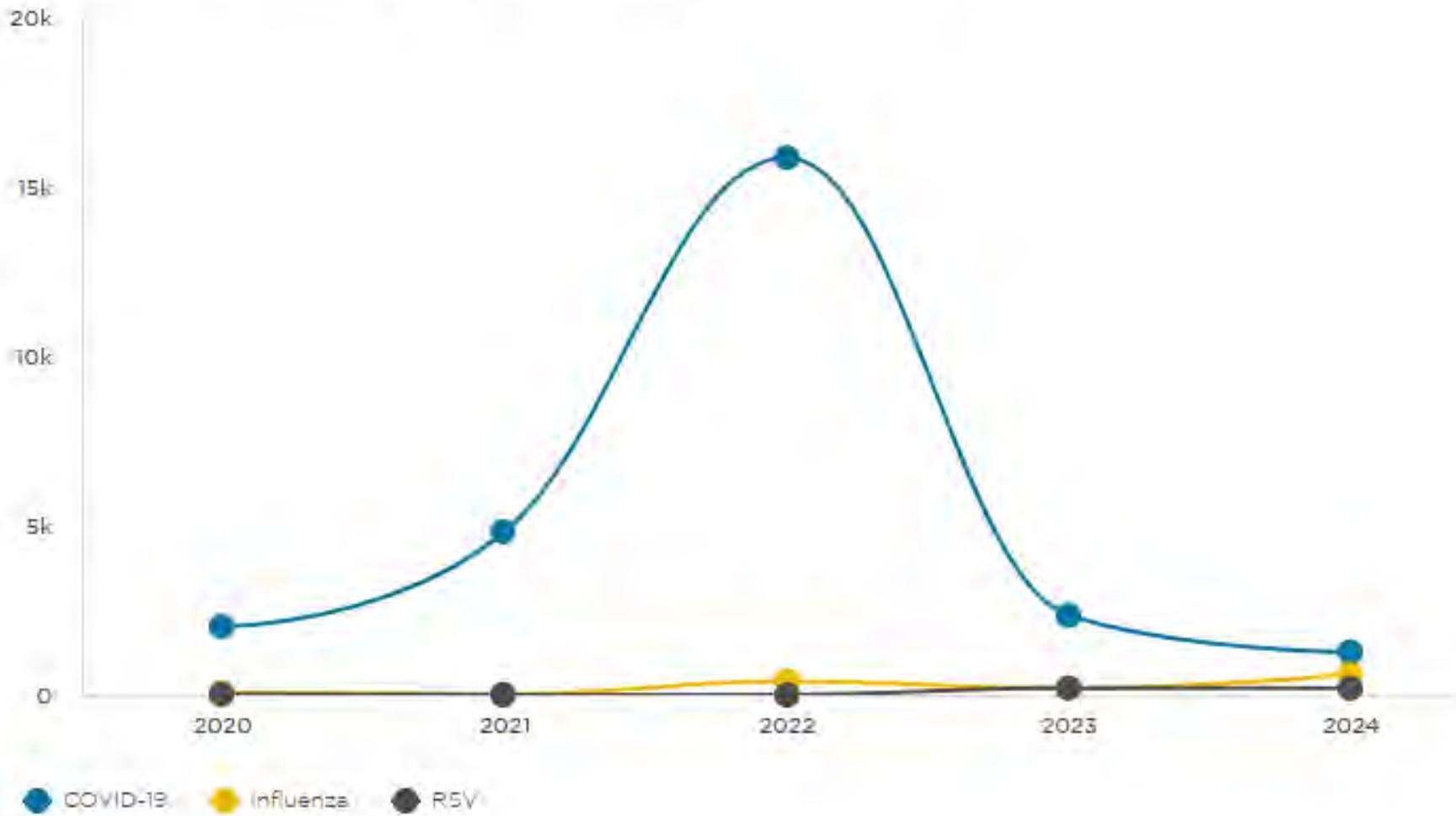
Sources: CDC BRFSS 500 Cities; CDC BRFSS PLACES

Adults Who Were Ever Diagnosed with Asthma by Year in Berkeley



Sources: CDC BRFSS 500 Cities; CDC BRFSS PLACES

Respiratory Morbidity, City of Berkeley, 2020-2024

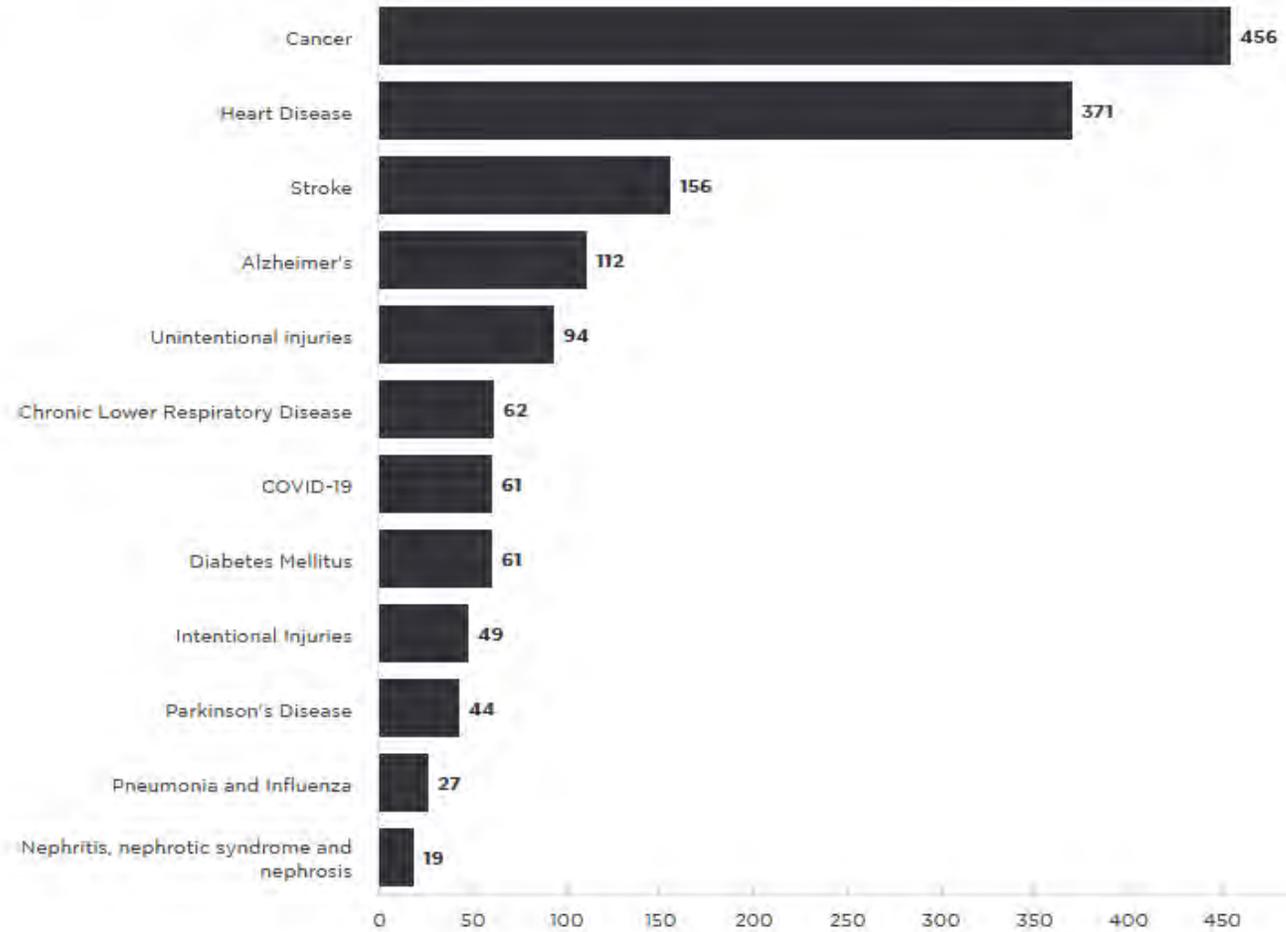


Source: City of Berkeley, PHOU

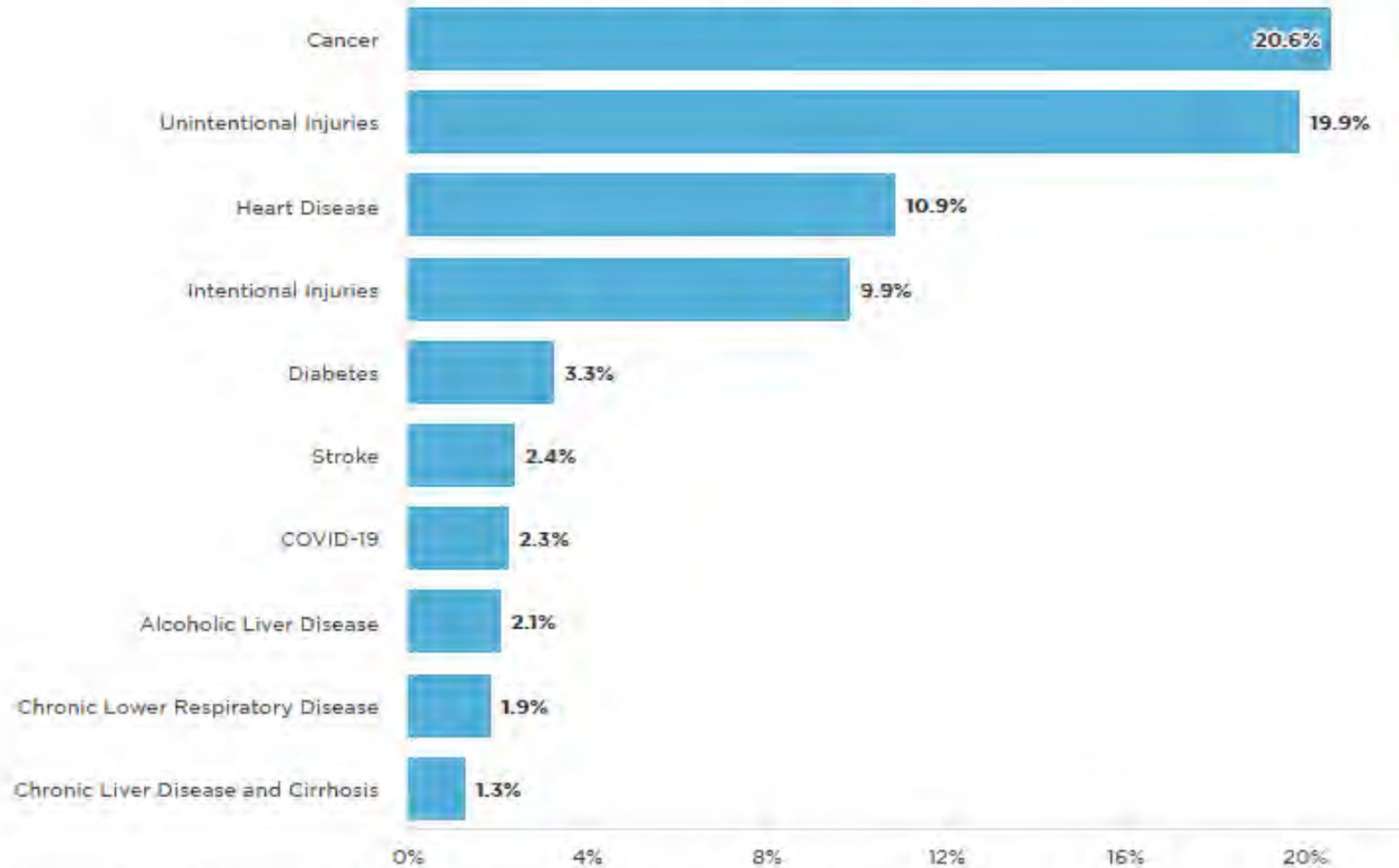
Leading Causes of Death, City of Berkeley, 2020-2022

Source: City of Berkeley, Vital Statistics, 2020-2022

Overall (Total = 2026)



Years of Potential Life Lost (YPLL) Before Age 75 by Cause of Death

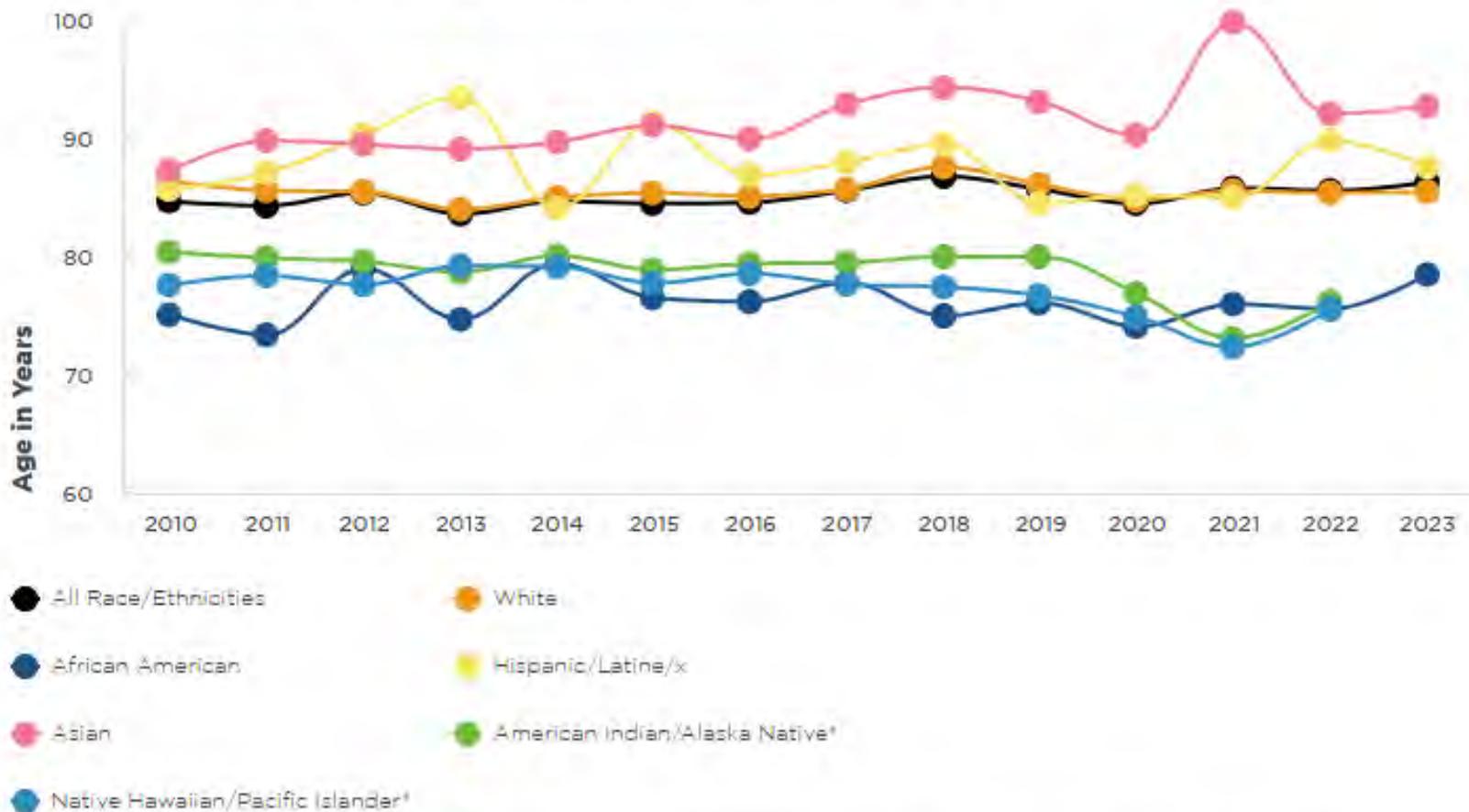


Source: City of Berkeley, Public Health Office Unit, Death Certificate Data 2020-2022

Berkeley as a whole is relatively healthy but disparities exist among different subpopulations

Overall, the life expectancy of Berkeley residents has remained consistently higher than those of Alameda County and California. However differences in health behaviors and health outcomes by geographic location in and race/ethnicity present challenges for subpopulations within Berkeley. Census tracts in the Northeast quadrant of Berkeley known to be socio-economically more advantaged smoke less, have more time to exercise and visit the doctor more regularly than residents in other parts of the city.

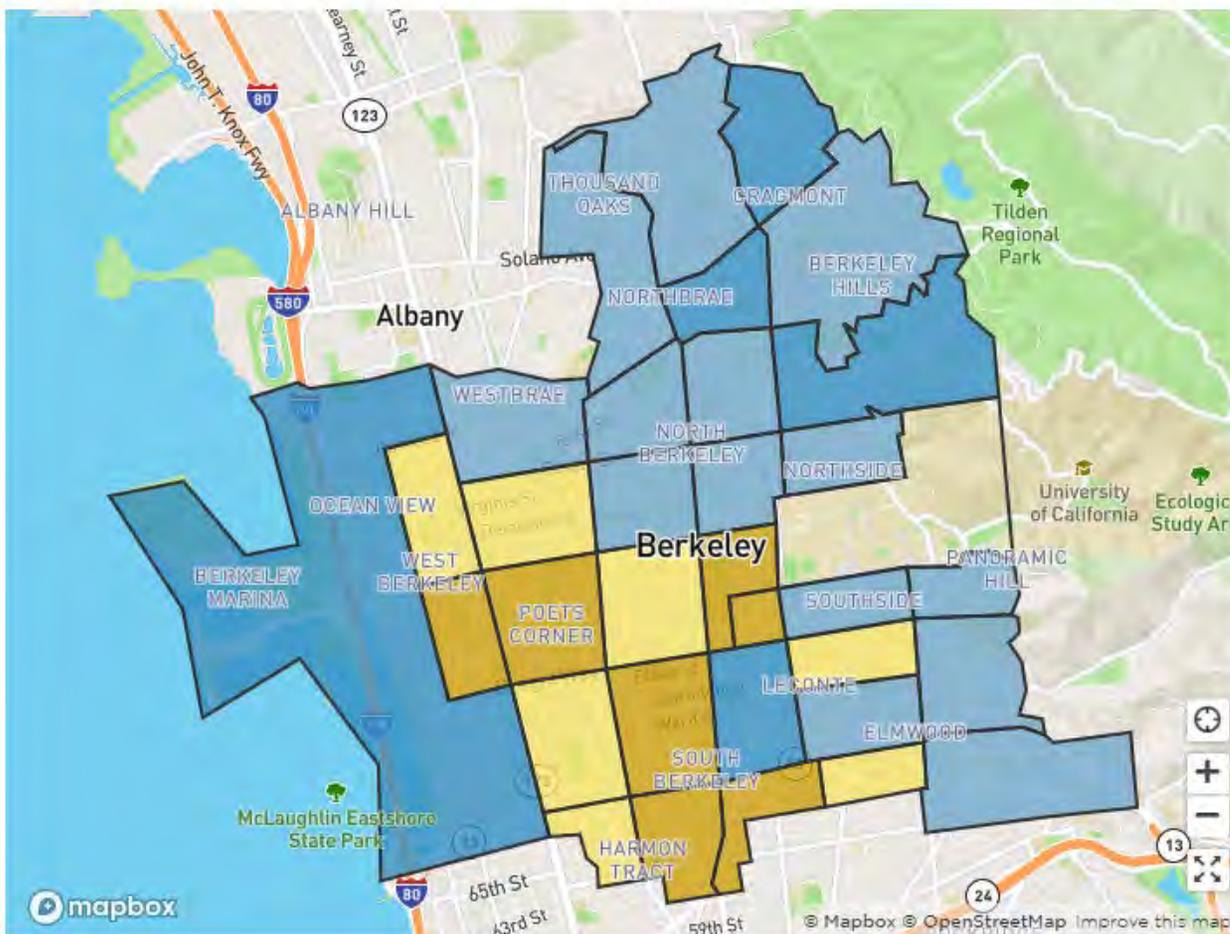
Life Expectancy at Birth by Race/Ethnicity in Berkeley



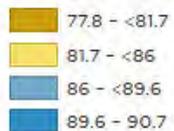
Source: City of Berkeley Public Health Officer Unit, Epidemiology & Vital Statistics, US Census Bureau

* Due to small population sizes, life expectancy estimates presented for American Indian/Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander are based on data for the entire State of California.

Life Expectancy at Birth by Census Tract, 2019-2023

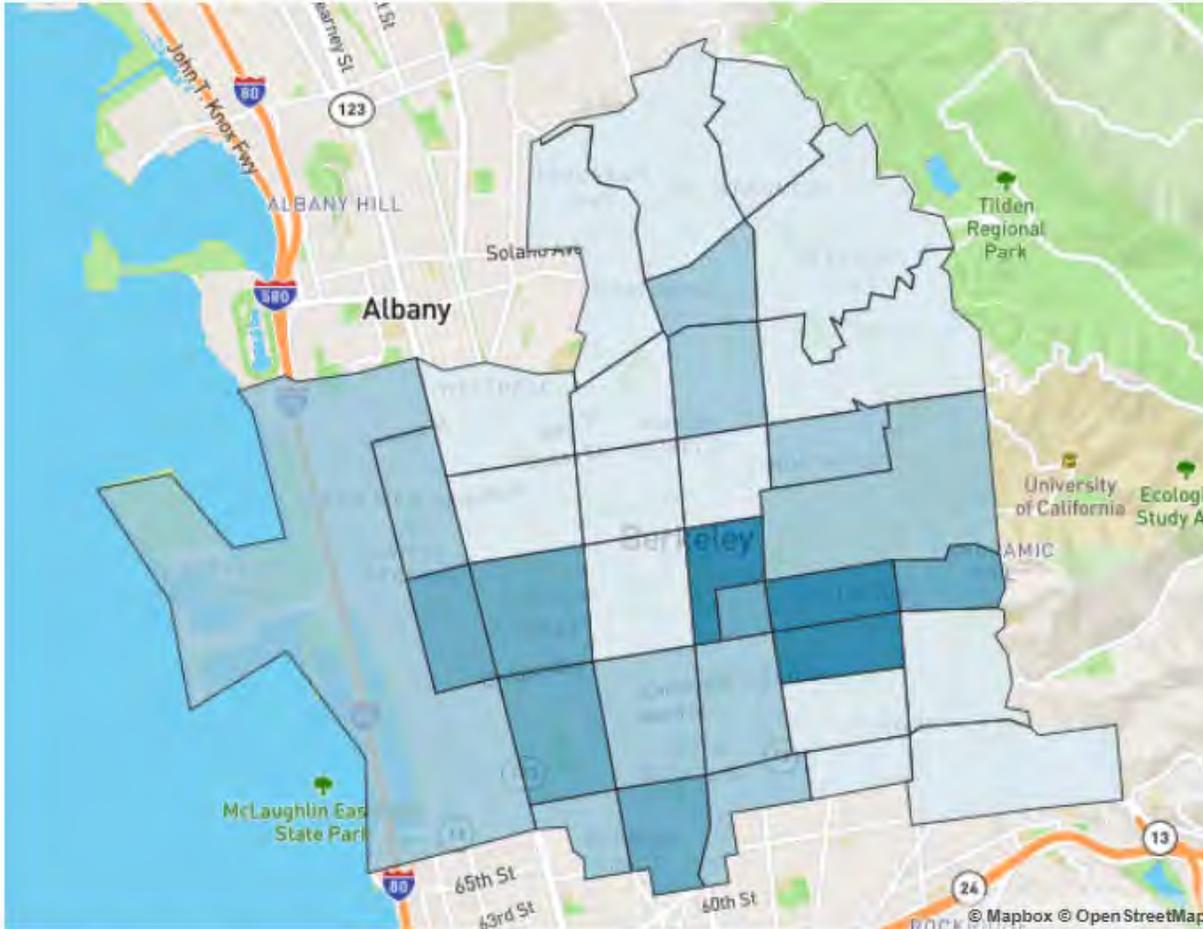


Life Expectancy at Birth

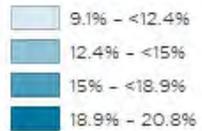


City of Berkeley Public Health Officer Unit, Epidemiology and Vital Statistics, U.S. Census Bureau

There is a Higher Percent of Adults in Fair or Poor General Health in West and South Berkeley

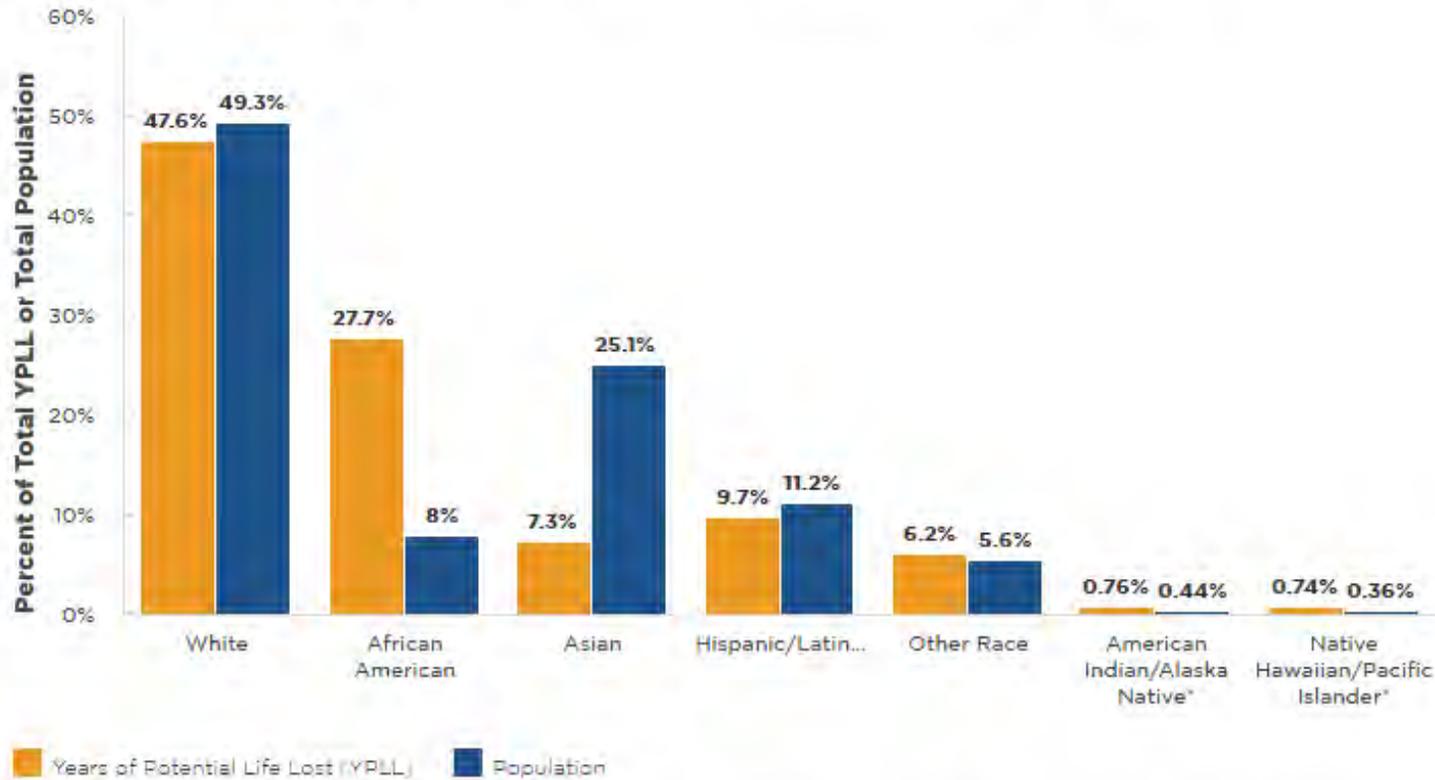


Fair or Poor General Health Among Adults



Sources: CDC BRFSS PLACES 2022

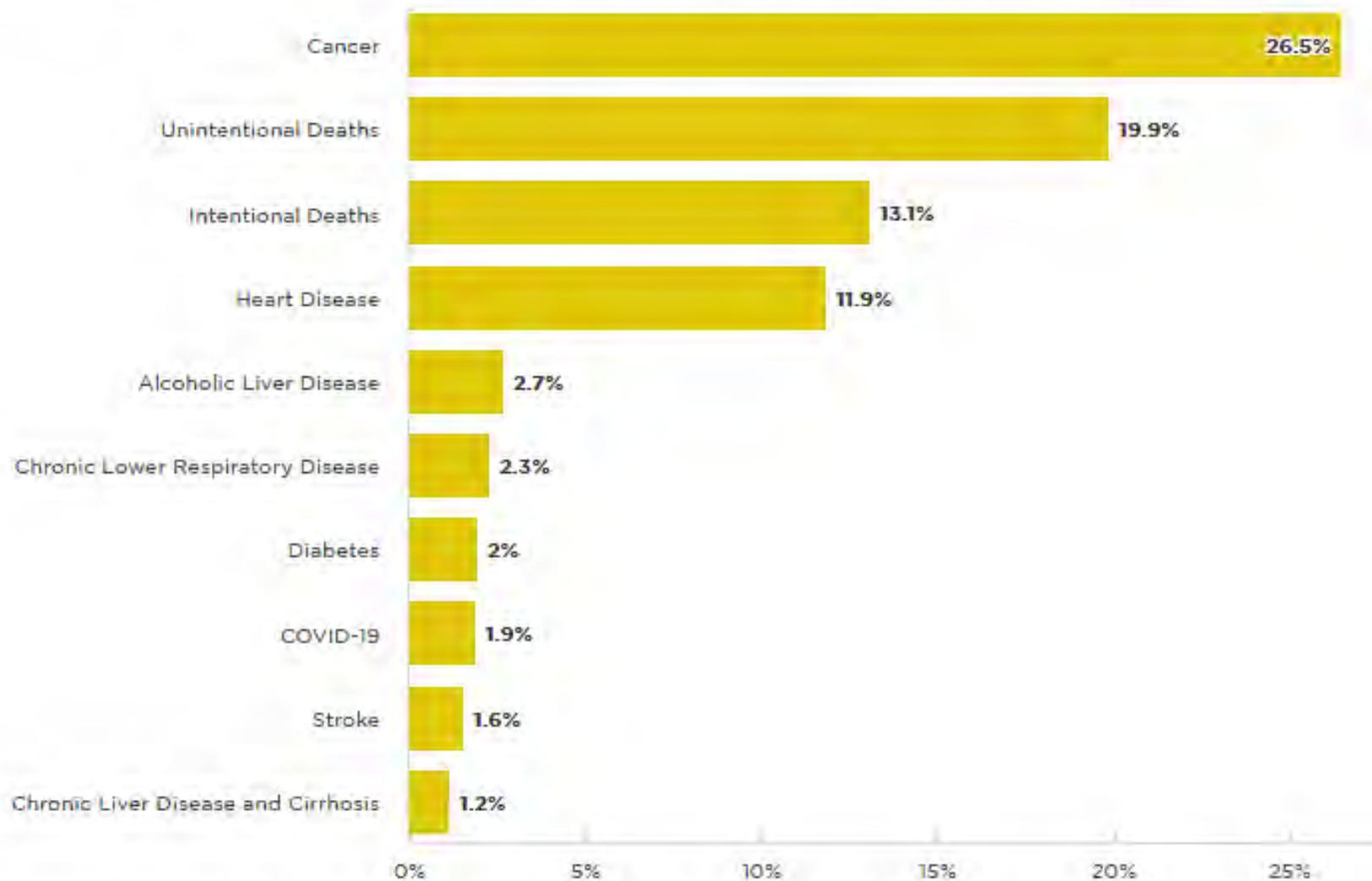
African Americans in Berkeley Experience a Disproportionate Number of Years of Potential Life Lost



Source: City of Berkeley Public Health Officer Unit, Epidemiology & Vital Statistics, 2020-2022; US Census Bureau, 2020-2022; California Department of Public Health, California Community Burden of Disease and Cost Engine, 2020-2022

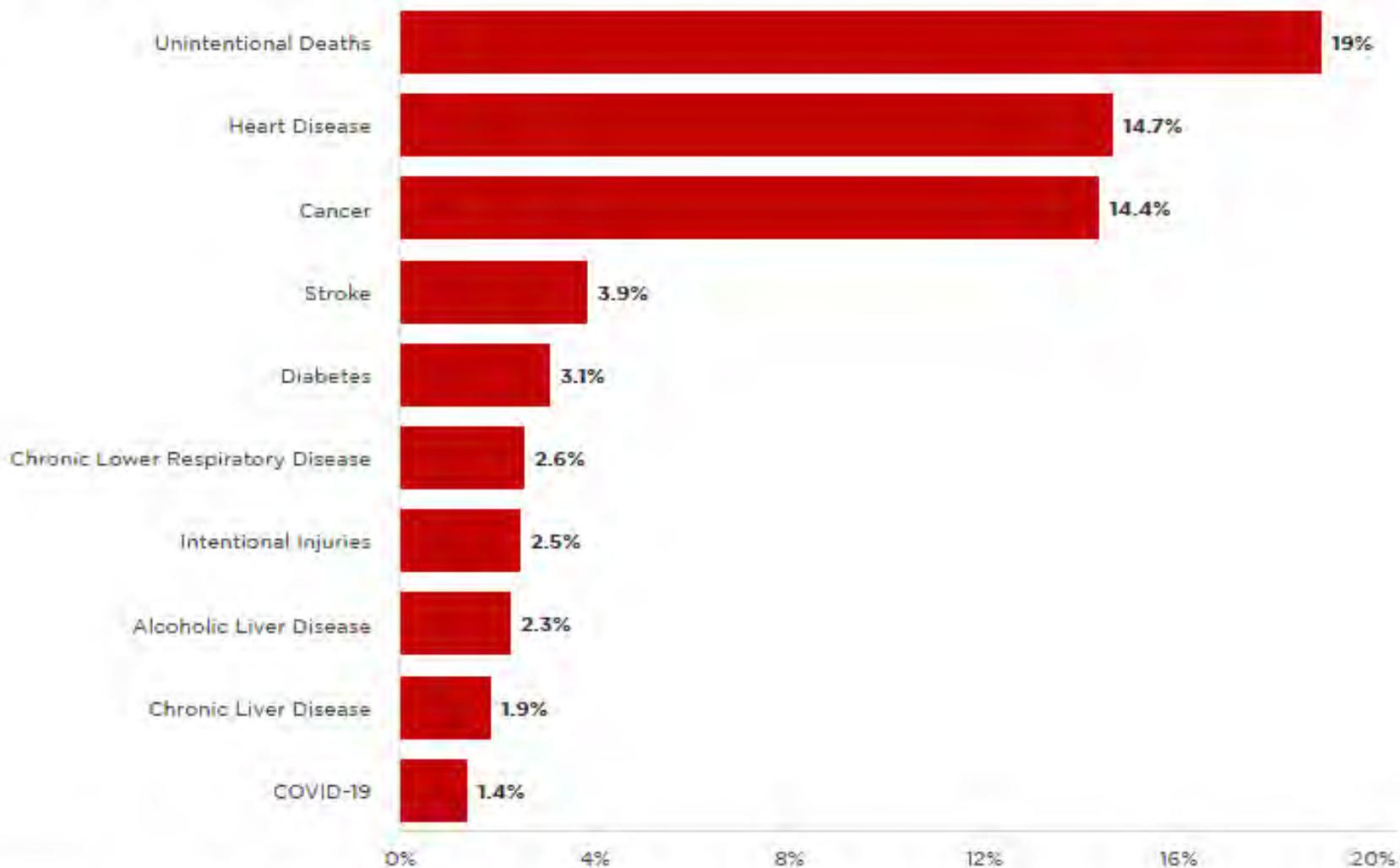
* Due to small number of deaths, estimates of years of potential life lost for American Indian/Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander are based on data for the entire state of California.

Years of Potential Life Lost (YPLL) Before Age 75 by Cause of Death Among Whites



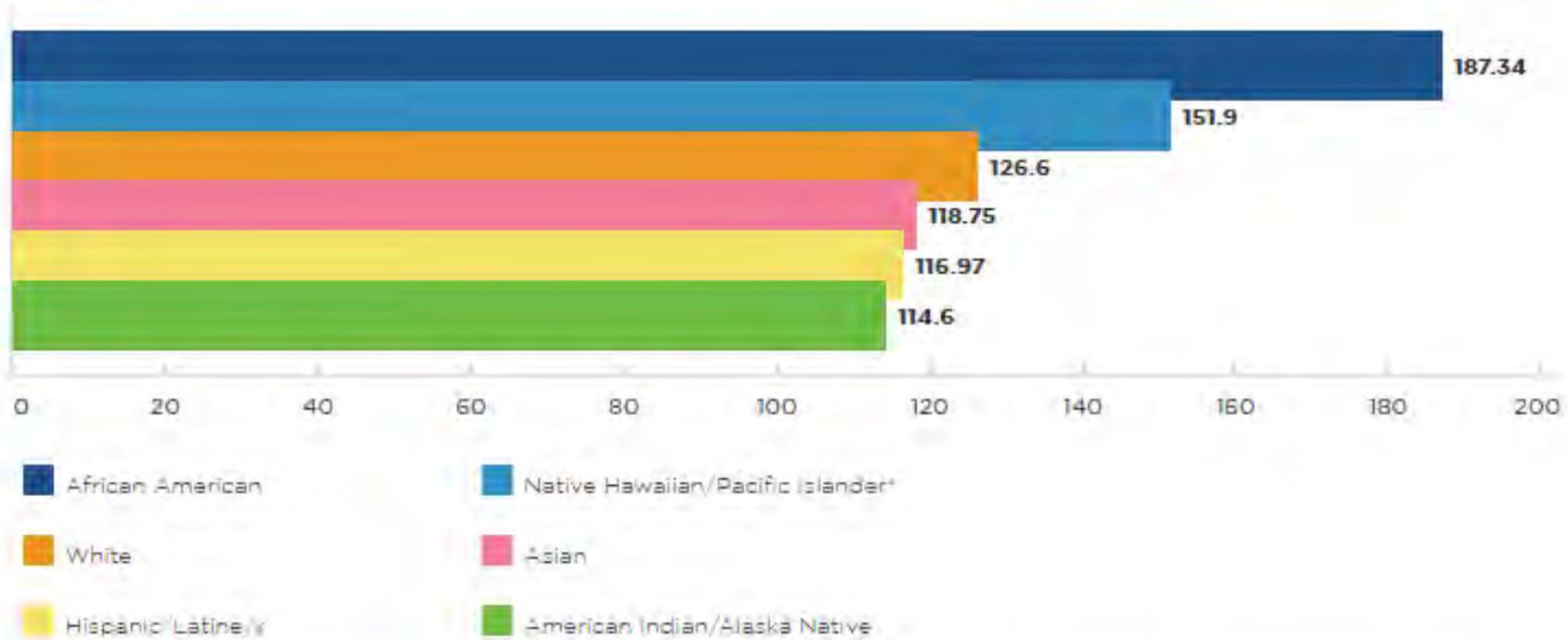
Source: Public Health Officer Unit, City of Berkeley, Death Certificates 2020-2022

Years of Potential Life Lost (YPLL) Before Age 75 by Cause of Death Among African Americans



Source: Public Health Officer Unit, City of Berkeley, Death Certificates 2020-2022

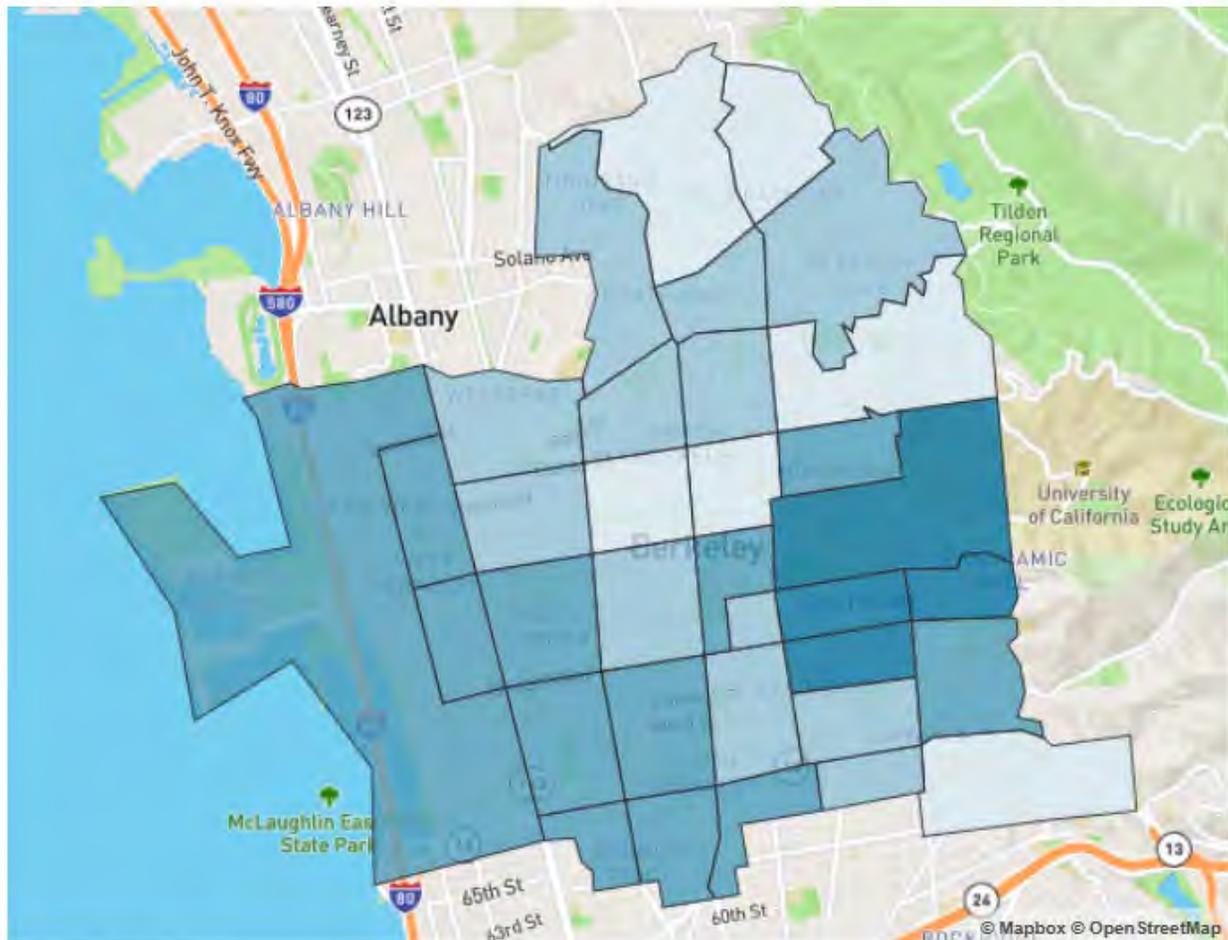
Higher Rates of Cancer Deaths Among African American Residents in Berkeley



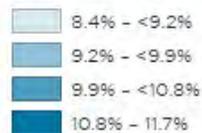
Source: City of Berkeley Public Health Officer Unit, Epidemiology & Vital Statistics, 2020-2022; US Census Bureau, 2020-2022; California Department of Public Health, California Community Burden of Disease and Cost Engine, 2020-2022

* Due to small number of deaths due to cancer, estimates for Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander are based on data for the entire state of California.

More Adults in West, South and Central Berkeley Have Asthma than in North Berkeley

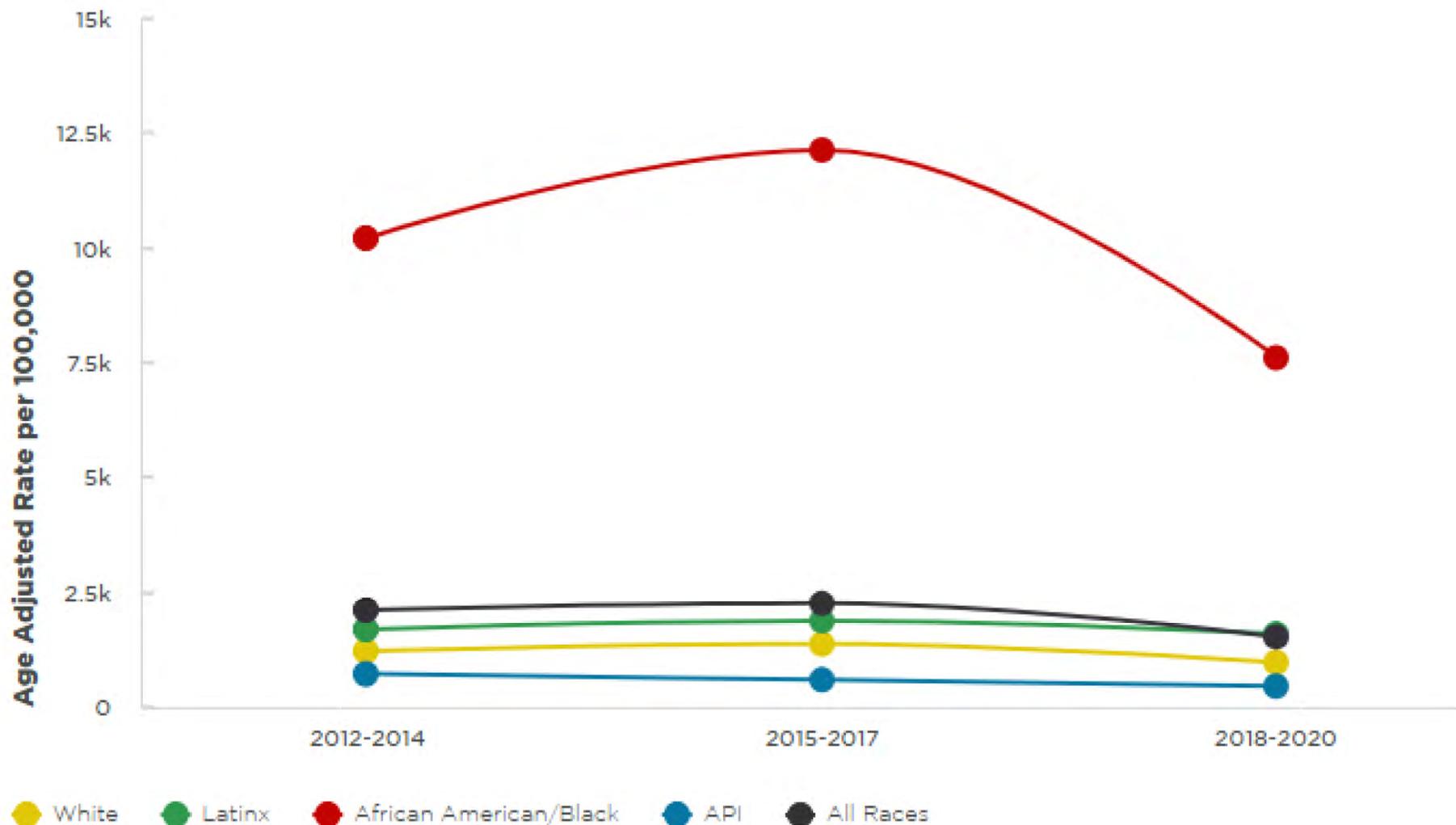


Asthma Among Adults



Sources: CDC BRFSS PLACES 2022

Adult Asthma Emergency Room Visit Rates by Race/Ethnicity and Year of Hospitalization



Source: City of Berkeley, California Department of Health Care Access and Information, 2012-2020

