



California Budget
& Policy Center

The California Women's Well- Being Index

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COMMUNICATIONS

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IMPACT 2017

TAKING AN INTERSECTIONAL LENS TO OUR WORK:
GENDER, RACE, AND ECONOMIC SECURITY

calbudgetcenter.org

Introducing the California Women's Well-Being Index (WWBI)

- Why did we create an index of women's well-being?
- How did we create the California Women's Well-Being Index?
- What is in the Index?
- How did we release the Index?
- What kind of response did the Index receive?
- Next steps.



Why Did We Create an Index of Women's Well-Being in California?

- When women thrive communities prosper
- Women still face disparities on a range of issues such as economic security, health, and political leadership – especially women of color
- Provide policymakers, advocates, service providers and other stakeholders with a trove of data at the county level or statewide by race and ethnicity



How Did We Create the California Women's Well-Being Index?

- Review of literature and comparable projects in other states
- Survey of thought leaders across California
- Data collection and aggregation
- Development of the data visualization
- Launch of the Index and related communication efforts



California Women's Well-Being Index

Created in partnership with the Women's Foundation of California



Health

Personal Safety

Employment & Earnings

Economic Security

Political Empowerment

Marin, 77.3
San Mateo, 71.7
Placer, 70.6
El Dorado, 65.2
Sonoma, 65.1
Alpine, 64.3
Napa, 64.3
San Francisco, 64.2
Contra Costa, 63.6
Ventura, 62.8
Yolo, 62.4
Mariposa, 62
San Luis Obispo, 61.8
Santa Clara, 61.3
Nevada, 61.2
Orange, 61
Inyo, 58.8
Alameda, 58.1
Calaveras, 57.8
San Diego, 57.1
Santa Barbara, 57
Mono, 56.8
Solano, 56.3
Amador, 55.7
Sacramento, 55.7
Tuolumne, 55.5
Santa Cruz, 54.5
Mendocino, 53.1
Sierra, 52.4
Modoc, 51.1
Los Angeles, 49.7
San Benito, 49
Sutter, 48.9
Siskiyou, 48.7
San Bernardino, 48.6
Riverside, 48.1
San Joaquin, 47.8
Monterey, 47
Lassen, 47
Butte, 46.9
Shasta, 46.5
Plumas, 46.4
Humboldt, 45.4
Trinity, 45.2
Fresno, 42.7
Tehama, 42.5
Stanislaus, 42.5
Tulare, 42.4
Del Norte, 41.5
Colusa, 41.3
Mediara, 39.8
Glenn, 39.4
Imperial, 37.7
Kern, 37.6
Merced, 37.4
Yuba, 35.4
Lake, 34.5
Kings, 33.4

Women's Well-Being Index: Overall

When women thrive, their families and communities prosper. Yet despite decades of progress, women still face persistent disparities on a range of issues, from economic security to health to participation in political leadership. By viewing women's well-being as encompassing various distinct yet interrelated components, policymakers, advocates, service providers, and community members can begin to craft policy solutions that help make California a place where all women and their families can thrive.



The California Women's Well-Being Index is a multifaceted, composite measure that consists of five "dimensions": Health, Personal Safety, Employment & Earnings, Economic Security, and Political Empowerment. Each dimension is composed of six indicators that have been standardized and combined to create dimension scores, on a scale from zero to 100, for each of California's 58 counties. The five dimension scores have been combined to create an overall Women's Well-Being Index score for each county.

*the WOMEN'S
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of CALIFORNIA*

[Acknowledgments](#)

[Notes on Methodology](#)



San Francisco, 83.7
 Marin, 83.5
 San Mateo, 78.7
 Napa, 68.9
 Santa Cruz, 67.5
 Sonoma, 67
 Placer, 66.2
 Alameda, 65.9
 Alpine, 64.7
 Mono, 64.7
 Yolo, 64.3
 Santa Clara, 61.3
 Orange, 61.2
 Contra Costa, 61.2
 Ventura, 60.8
 San Diego, 60.4
 Mariposa, 59.4
 Sacramento, 58.7
 Modoc, 57.3
 Los Angeles, 56.7
 El Dorado, 56.4
 Solano, 56.1
 Mendocino, 55.3
 San Luis Obispo, 54.7
 Santa Barbara, 54.2
 Humboldt, 54.1
 Monterey, 52.6
 Tuolumne, 51.6
 Calaveras, 50.6
 Nevada, 48.1
 Inyo, 47.8
 Shasta, 47.4
 Amador, 47.1
 Butte, 46.3
 Sutter, 46
 Sierra, 44.9
 San Bernardino, 44.2
 Del Norte, 43.5
 Lassen, 43.3
 Madera, 42.7
 Plumas, 42.5
 Fresno, 42.5
 San Joaquin, 41.8
 Riverside, 41.5
 Siskiyou, 41.3
 Tulare, 41.2
 Trinity, 39.1
 Glenn, 36.7
 Stanislaus, 36.2
 Colusa, 35.7
 San Benito, 35.1
 Tehama, 34.7
 Yuba, 34.5
 Merced, 32.8
 Kern, 32.7
 Lake, 32
 Kings, 31.7
 Imperial, 28.1

Employment & Earnings: Dimension Index

Over the past generation, women have entered the labor market in record numbers and also have increasingly become the primary earner or co-primary earner for their families. Despite these transformative changes, women still make up a disproportionate share of low-wage workers, still face a gender wage gap, and still have the main responsibility for household caregiving duties. Smart public policies that better reflect the expanded role of women in the workforce would allow more parents to enter the workplace and help families to balance the needs of work and home.



The Employment & Earnings dimension score is the composite score of six indicators: unemployment, labor force participation, low-wage occupations, managerial & professional occupations, earnings, and the wage gap between women's and men's earnings. Dimension scores are scaled from zero to 100, with a higher value reflecting greater well-being.

Notes ▼

Sources ▼

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Acknowledgments

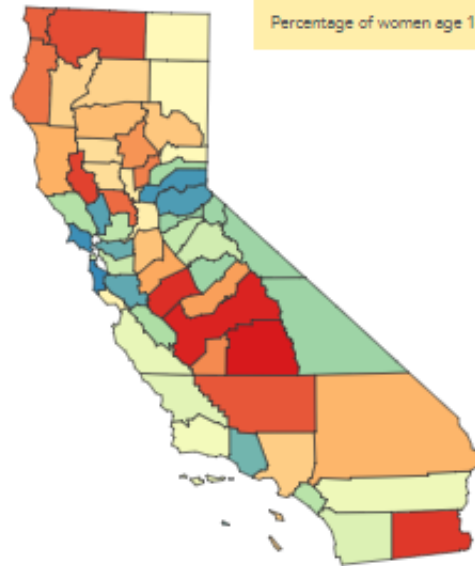
Notes on Methodology



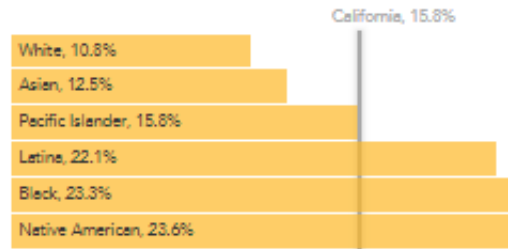
California, 15.8%

Economic Security > Poverty

San Mateo, 7.7%
Marin, 8.5%
Placer, 8.6%
El Dorado, 9.7%
Napa, 9.8%
Santa Clara, 10.2%
Contra Costa, 10.7%
Ventura, 10.7%
Alpine, 12.1%
Mono, 12.1%
Mariposa, 12.1%
Amador, 12.1%
Inyo, 12.1%
Nevada, 12.1%
San Benito, 12.2%
Sonoma, 12.8%
Orange, 12.4%
Solano, 12.6%
Calaveras, 13.1%
Alameda, 13.3%
Tuolumne, 13.7%
San Francisco, 14.4%
San Diego, 14.7%
San Luis Obispo, 15.0%
Monterey, 15.6%
Riverside, 15.9%
Santa Barbara, 16.0%
Lassen, 16.4%
Modoc, 16.4%
Sierra, 16.4%
Santa Cruz, 16.6%
Secramento, 16.9%
Sutter, 16.9%
Glenn, 17.4%
Colusa, 17.4%
Shasta, 17.7%
Trinity, 17.7%
Los Angeles, 17.8%
Plumas, 18.1%
San Joaquin, 18.2%
Tehama, 18.3%
San Bernardino, 18.4%
Mendocino, 18.9%
Stanislaus, 19.3%
Madera, 20.3%
Butte, 20.5%
Kings, 20.9%
Yuba, 21.5%
Humboldt, 21.9%
Yolo, 22.1%
Del Norte, 22.1%
Kern, 22.2%
Siskiyou, 22.3%
Lake, 22.5%
Imperial, 22.9%
Merced, 23.0%
Fresno, 24.2%
Tulare, 24.4%



Statewide by Race and Ethnicity



Notes ▼

Sources ▼

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California, 30.9%

Political Empowerment > Voter Turnout

Sierra, 66.0%
Marin, 50.6%
Nevada, 50.1%
Mariposa, 48.7%
Amador, 46.5%
Alpine, 46.5%
El Dorado, 46.0%
Calaveras, 44.6%
San Luis Obispo, 43.7%
Sonoma, 43.5%
Siskiyou, 43.3%
Placer, 43.2%
Modoc, 43.0%
Napa, 43.0%
Shasta, 42.8%
Tuolumne, 42.6%
Santa Barbara, 42.3%
Mendocino, 42.1%
Inyo, 41.8%
Lassen, 41.2%
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Yolo, 32.4%
Solano, 32.0%
Orange, 31.6%
Kings, 29.7%
San Joaquin, 29.5%
Madera, 29.4%
Fresno, 29.0%
Stanislaus, 28.8%
Kern, 28.7%
Merced, 27.4%
Yuba, 26.6%
Tulare, 25.8%
Riverside, 25.2%
Los Angeles, 24.7%
Imperial, 23.5%
San Bernardino, 23.2%

Percentage of women who voted in the 2014 general election



Statewide by Race and Ethnicity

Data not available by race and ethnicity
for this indicator.

Notes ▼

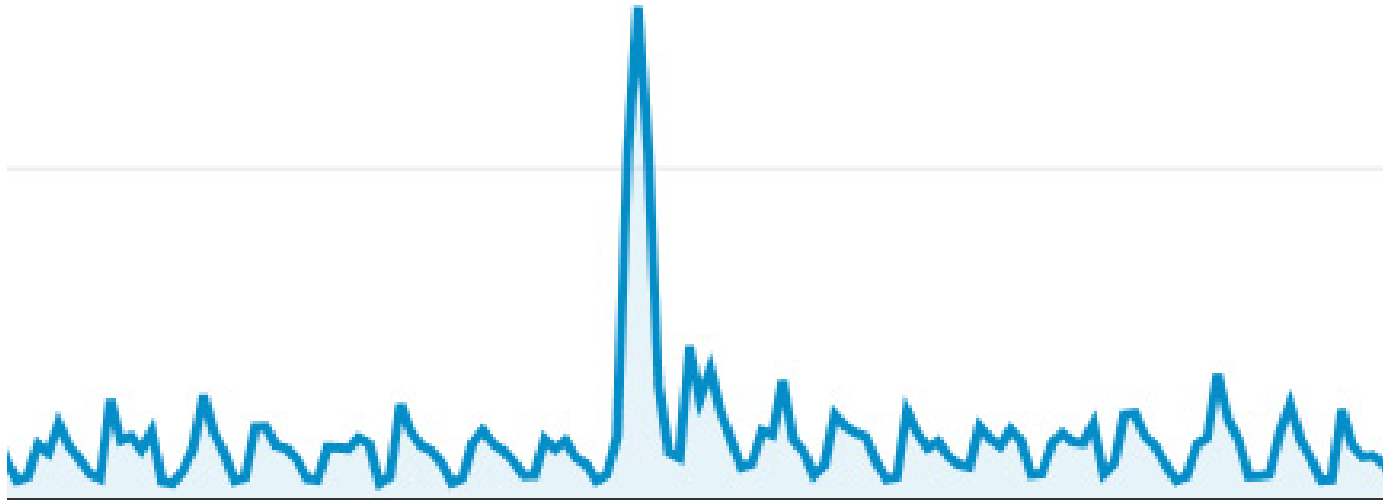
Sources ▼

**the WOMEN'S
FOUNDATION**



Website Traffic for Launch of Index

Google Analytics



A Multifaceted, Statewide Release and Outreach Plan

- Preview of Women's Well-Being Index at the Budget Center's annual policy conference four weeks prior to launch
- Media release lifting up main storylines and targeting both statewide and local outlets
- Series of briefings, both in person and online
- Ongoing social media presence (#CAWomenThrive)



Coverage in Statewide and Local Media



The Numbers Crunch: What's so wrong about playing the 'woman's card'?

“Single mothers are paying far too much of their income on rent, especially in high-cost coastal counties. Women in rural, inland counties are more likely to say they're in fair or poor health. And Hispanic and black women earn less than white and Asian women, and are more likely to be in poverty.”



Latinas, las mujeres con peores empleos y salarios más bajos en California

Las mujeres latinas son las que peores condiciones laborales tienen, pero las que menos se suicidan

Por: Univision

Publicado: mar 29, 2016 | 07:04 PM EDT



Las mujeres latinas ocupan los puestos laborales peor pagados y tienen los ingresos más bajos en comparación con mujeres de otras razas en California, según publicó este martes [California Budget & Policy Center](#).

Los datos se desprenden de la nueva herramienta [California Women's Well-Being Index](#) que pretende servir para establecer el grado de bienestar de las mujeres en este estado en función de su salud, empleo, seguridad personal, seguridad económica y política.

Mientras la mayoría de las mujeres latinas en California ganan 30,000 dólares al año (unas cifras de 2009 a 2014 y que están por debajo de la media estatal de 43,709 dólares), las mujeres blancas obtienen ingresos de 53,731 dólares.

New Database Tracks Women's Wellness Across California



Local News

Report looks at the well-being of Yolo County's women

By [Anne Ternus-Bellamy](#)

From page A3 | April 01, 2016

Women in Yolo County are generally healthier than women in California's other 57 counties, but they also face higher rates of sexual assault and are significantly under-represented in local elected office, according to a report released this week by the California Budget & Policy Center.

The report — the California Women's Well-Being Index — looked at five categories in determining how well women here are doing: health; personal safety; employment and earnings;

Kern County ranks low in California Women's Well-Being Index

by Kahtia Hall, Eyewitness News | Thursday, March 31st 2016



Merced County ranks near last in women's wellness issues, study says



BY MONICA VELEZ

mvelez@mercedsun-star.com



APRIL 05, 2016 6:47 PM



Women in Merced County are more likely to lack a high school diploma, struggle to find work, and spend more of their income on child care than women than nearly anywhere else in California, according to a new statewide analysis.



Out of the state's 58 counties, Merced County ranked 55th in terms of overall well-being for women, according to a study by the [California Budget and Policy Center](#), an independent organization based in Sacramento.

[The study](#), released last week, compared the counties on how well women are doing in five key areas: health, personal safety, employment and earnings, economic security and political empowerment.



Briefings on Women's Well-Being Index



Los Angeles



San Francisco



Some Outcomes of Our Release and Outreach Effort

- Boosted the visibility of the Women's Well-Being Index and the issues/needs/opportunities it highlights
- Engaged new partners (advocates, researchers, policymakers, funders), including many with a focus on advancing racial equity
- Helped generate some local discussions on racial inequities related to issues in Index (child care costs, e.g.)
- Obtained extensive feedback on potential uses of and enhancements to the Index



Next Steps: Extending the Index

- Report focusing on women of color and state- and local-level policy solutions
- Two to three briefings across the state
- Added functionality to the online data visualization



Key Takeaways: Potential Lessons for Other States





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