# **City of Gardena**

### Summary of Environmental Justice Indicators



Below is a summary of key findings from the Environmental Justice White Paper prepared for the City of Gardena in April 2021, available for download at https://cityofgardena.org/environmental-justice-element.

# **Disadvantaged Communities\*** (DACs)

**13** of **14** Gardena census tracts are considered DACs.



These areas represent:

93.9% of the City's acreage **92.9%** of the City's population

93.4% of the City's households

# **Pollution Exposure and Air Quality**



All 14 census tracts have high burdens in particulate matter 2.5 and toxic releases and medium or high burdens in ozone, diesel particulate matter, traffic, and drinking water.

There are 38 hazardous waste sites in the City generally clustered in the north area within one DAC tract.

## **Public Facilities**



While seven of the City's 11 parks and recreation facilities are evenly distributed in DACs throughout the community, there are six DACs notably void of parks and other community facilities.

Several bus lines provide citywide service and there are two Metro stations just outside of the City's eastern boundary in unincorporated Los Angeles County.



#### Food Access\*\*

11.6%

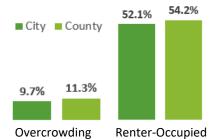
Food insecurity rate in the 43rd District, which is generally consistent with County, State, and national rates.

Food insecurity rate in the 44th District, which is notably higher than the 43rd District, County, State, and nation.

There are no supermarkets within City boundaries north of Marine Ave. All census tracts have at least some households without access to a vehicle, which may make it more difficult to get groceries.



The City has a lower overcrowding rate and a lower rate of renter-occupied housing units than the County.



**72.2%** of renteroccupied units are low to extremely low-income compared to 44.7% of owner-occupied units, demonstrating a higher housing cost burden for renters.

**Physical Activity** 

Active transportation use during daily commutes is one indicator of physical activity levels. Overall, Gardena residents use active transportation modes less than the County.

#### How Gardena commuters get to work

2.6%

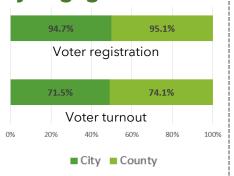






# **Community Engagement**

One way of measuring the City's level of civic engagement is voter participation. Gardena had a lower voter registration and turnout rate than the County for the 2020 presidential election.



\*A **Disadvantaged Community** is an area identified by CalEPA pursuant to Section 39711 of the Health and Safety Code, or a low-income area disproportionately affected by environmental pollution and other hazards that can lead to negative health effects, exposure, or environmental degradation.

# Addressing the Needs of DACs

The Regional Opportunity Index identifies the level of people-based and place-based opportunities for each census tract based on several indicators.

Areas with low levels of opportunity (where improvements need to be made)	
People-based assets	Place-based assets
8 DAC census tracts mostly located east of S. Western Ave	4 DAC census tracts mostly located north of Marine Ave

\*\*Eleven census tracts in Gardena are within are within the 43rd Congressional District and three census tracts are within the 44th Congressional District. Food insecurity rates by Congressional District are one way to measure food access.