2022 SILICON VALLEY PAIN INDEX

Extreme Racial and Social Inequalities Persist, and In Some Cases Worsen

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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”*; (2) Serve as a measure of 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 (3) Inspire collaborations between scholars, students, stakeholders, communities, and policy makers to address inequality and achieve greater human rights practice.

Originally inspired by the murder of George Floyd, as well as Professor Bill Quigley’s Katrina Pain Index following the devastating 2005 hurricane, the 2022 Silicon Valley Pain Index [SVPI] illustrates the persistent racial discrimination and income/wealth inequality that continue to define our region.

While the 2020 and 2021 SVPI each reported high levels of racial discrimination and socio-economic inequality, this 3rd Annual 2022 SVPI demonstrates how extreme racial inequalities persist as COVID-19 death rates decline, and as the technology sector that dominates the valley produced astronomical (though volatile) wealth this past year, with almost no African American, Latinx, Pacific Islander, and Indigenous American representation at the executive level or in the boardroom. The 2022 SVPI also illustrates the decline of incomes for African American and Latinx households, while White incomes increase. Further, it highlights the worsening housing crisis, as the cost to buy or rent skyrockets alongside rising mortgage interest rates and record levels of inflation that push housing further out of reach for working and middle-class families. Finally, it sheds light on continued, troubling racial and social class disparities in criminal justice and public education.

* Silicon Valley and Santa Clara County are considered interchangeable throughout the 2022 SVPI. All data focuses on this region unless stated in the 2022 SVPI text or in the footnotes. Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of information in the 2022 SVPI. In addition, the most current research has been utilized. 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 in future editions.
By 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 2022 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.


Following the 2021 SVPI that featured statistics on rising homelessness and food insecurity among college students and young adults across the state of California, the SJSU HRI worked with CA State Senator Dave Cortese, his staff, and other co-sponsors to author SB 1341 to create the CalSOAR Program. If passed, the program would provide a guaranteed income of $1,000 per month for 5 months (from April to August) to graduating high school seniors in California who complete a FAFSA (federal financial aid eligibility) form and fall under Federal McKinney-Vento qualifications for housing insecurity. Estimates suggest that the program could impact over 12,000 student households across the state, and provide significant relief to young adults struggling to afford the cost of living in California. SB 1341 passed the State Senate in May of 2022 and has moved to the CA Assembly.

**How to read the 2022 Silicon Valley Pain Index:**

The 2022 Silicon Valley Pain Index is a meta-analysis that examines 57 of the most recent studies and reports conducted on Silicon Valley, primarily published in the year since the release of the 2021 SVPI in June, 2021. The 2022 SVPI is composed of almost 90 statistics laid out from the number 0 to 3 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, and how this inequality has been exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic. In the 2022 SVPI, the racial inequalities noted in the 2020 and 2021 SVPI persist, and in some ways, have gotten worse, as COVID-19 mortality rate has declined from over 370 deaths in January, 2021 in Santa Clara County to less than 20 in May of 2022.**

** https://covid19.sccgov.org/dashboard-cases-and-deaths
For example, the 2022 SVPI reports that:

- 0 Apple executives and senior managers that are African American, Pacific Islander/Hawaiian, and American Indian/Alaskan Native, men (out of 126) or Latina.

- .7% of Silicon Valley households (6,913) own 25% of the collective regional wealth versus the bottom 50% of households (467,187) that own 1.4% of the wealth. Further, the top 10% of area households control 75% of the collective regional wealth.

- In the face of incredible local wealth, 46% of children in Silicon Valley live in households that do not earn enough income to be self-sufficient, and can’t cover basic needs.

- A considerable majority (73%) of tech companies have 0 African Americans on their executive leadership team.

- Despite the goal of building 10,000 new affordable units by the end of 2022 in San Jose, only 204 affordable housing units were completed between July 1, 2021 and June 30, 2022, down from 417 the previous year; 8,372 units short of City’s goal.

- 72% of San Jose residents support a non-police approach to issues such as traffic safety, mental health, school safety and assisting the homeless.

- 250 homeless people died on the streets of Santa Clara County in 2021—a 55% increase from pre-pandemic levels.

- 1,526 Latinx people were injured by San Jose Police Department in use of force incidents from 2017 to 2021 in comparison to 565 cases against Whites, with injuries being more severe for Latinx.

- $3,165 is the median monthly rent in the San Jose-Sunnyvale-Santa Clara metro area in December, 2021, making it the most expensive metro area to rent in the U.S.

- $14,337 is spent per pupil in the Franklin McKinley School District with 59% Latinx students (average household income: $75,898), whereas $19,764 is spent per pupil in the Saratoga Union School District (average household income: $195,584) with 4% Latinx students.

- Apple’s revenue for 2021 was $336B, up from $275B in 2020.

These highlights of the 2022 SVPI are displayed in the infographic below, with the full index beginning on the following page. Finally, please see the endnotes for the sources of the 2022 SVPI.
# Key Highlights

## 2022 Silicon Valley Pain Index

*Extreme Racial & Social Inequalities Persist, and In Some Cases Worsen*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>0</th>
<th>Number of Apple executives and senior managers that are African American, Pacific Islander, and Indigenous American men (77 White men, 126 total).</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>.7</td>
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<tr>
<td>46</td>
<td>Percent of children in Silicon Valley who live in households that do not earn enough income to cover the family’s basic needs.</td>
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<td>72</td>
<td>Percent of San Jose residents who support a non-police approach to issues such as traffic safety, mental health, school safety, and assisting the homeless.</td>
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<tr>
<td>73</td>
<td>Percentage of tech companies that have 0 African Americans on their executive leadership team.</td>
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<td>204</td>
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Full report available: [www.sjsu.edu/hri](http://www.sjsu.edu/hri)  
Twitter: @SJSUHumanRights  
@SVpainindex
2022 SILICON VALLEY PAIN INDEX

0 Number of Apple executives and senior managers that are African American, Pacific Islander/Hawaiian, and American Indian/Alaskan Native men (77 White men, 126 total).\(^1\)

.46 Amount in dollars that Latinx workers in San Jose make for every dollar earned by White workers.\(^2\)

.7 Number of Silicon Valley households (6,913) that own 25% of the collective wealth versus the bottom 50% of Silicon Valley households (467,187) that own 1.4% of the wealth.\(^3\)

1 Number of people who died each day on average on the streets of Silicon Valley over a one-month period during mid-December 2021 to mid-January, 2022.\(^4\)

1.3 Percent of the housing wealth owned by African Americans in San Jose, though they are 3.2% of the population.\(^5\)

1.4 Percent of the wealth owned by the bottom 50% of Silicon Valley households (467,187) compared to 25% owned by .7% of households (6,913).\(^6\)

1.5 Percent of Board of Directors that are Latinx at the largest 200 tech firms, with 3% being African American.\(^7\)

2 Number of Apple executives and senior managers that are African American women; 0 Latinx, Pacific Islander/Hawaiian, and American Indian/Alaskan Native women; 6 Asian women; 21 White women (out of 126 total).\(^8\)

2 Number of homeless individuals that get connected to housing in Santa Clara County for every three that become newly homeless.\(^9\)

3 Percent of Google leadership positions that are held by African Americans, while 66% of Google leadership positions are held by Whites.\(^10\)

3.9 Percent of students suspended in all Santa Clara County school districts that are African American (1.8% of student population) compared to 1.1% for Whites (19% of student population).\(^11\)

5.3 Percent of Whites living in poverty in Santa Clara County, compared to 11% for Latinx, 11.3% for Native American/Alaska Native, and 11.7% for African Americans.\(^12\)

5.4 Price in dollars per square feet for the average office rental in Silicon Valley, an all-time high.\(^13\)

6 Number of *unarmed* community members killed by San Jose Police Officers from 2015 to 2021; in total, 25 community members were killed by San Jose Police.\(^14\)
6.8 Percent of Asian Americans living in poverty in Santa Clara County (3.6% for Asian Indians, 4.6% for Filipinos, 4.8% for Japanese, 8.2% for Chinese, and 12% for Vietnamese households). 

8 Percent of tree coverage in the lowest income areas of San Jose versus 20% tree coverage in the highest income areas.

10 Percent of the households ($500,000 and above in investable assets) that control 75% of the collective regional wealth.

11.2 Percent of San José State University (SJSU) student body (4,000 students) who have experienced homelessness in the past 12 months.

12 Number of students who received SJSU emergency housing (on and off campus) in fall semester, 2022, with 213 SJSU students requesting emergency housing assistance.

12 Percent of the housing wealth owned by Latinx Americans in San Jose, but 24% of the population.

14 Percent of San Jose that is covered by trees, down almost 2% since 2012 and equivalent to 2.7 square mile; tree coverage in Seattle, WA is 28%, and 40% in Pittsburgh, PA.

15 Number of active San Jose Police officers involved in the killing or critical injury of a community member.

21 Percent of the immigrants in San Jose metro area that are undocumented.

22 Percent of White households in Silicon Valley that are unable to provide their basic needs with their income (in comparison to Asian Pacific Islanders at 27%, African Americans at 46%, Latinx at 61%, and a rate of 33% for all households).

23 Number of female students confirmed by the Department of Justice that were sexually assaulted by Scott Shaw, a San José State athletic trainer.

23 Percent of public complaints against San Jose police officers that were due to excessive force.

23.2 Suspension rate per 1,000 of Santa Clara County students who live in poverty versus 9.7 per 1,000 for non-poor students.

24 Percent of Board of Directors who are women in the tech industry.

25 Percent of San Jose police officers who were named in complaints filed in 2020.

30 Percent of SJSU student body (11,000 students) that have experienced food insecurity.
33 Percent of Silicon Valley households (168,429) that have 0 or negative “net worth”.

39 Percent of Black, Indigenous, People of Color (BIPOC) and women workers in tech companies who do not feel a part of the decision-making process at work.

39 Percent of the people who are immigrants in the San Jose metro area (762,784 residents), who collectively pay $18.2 billion in federal, state, and local taxes.

42 Percent of SJSU students that have experienced housing insecurity.

44 Percent of the housing wealth owned by Whites in San Jose, though only representing 35% of the population.

45 Percent increase of the price of unleaded gasoline in the Bay Area in December, 2021, in comparison to December, 2020.

46 Percent of children in Silicon Valley who live in households that do not earn enough income to cover the family’s basic needs and require government or non-profit assistance to meet them.

50 Percent of all restaurant and food service industry workers who are immigrants in San Jose metro area.

54 Hourly wage in dollars that renters need to afford the average monthly rent in San Jose for a 2-bedroom apartment (approximately $111,680 a year).

56 Percent of Latinx (12+ years old) who have received at least one booster vaccination for COVID-19, compared to 63% for African Americans, 72% for Whites, and 73% for Asian Americans.

58 Number of traffic fatalities involving pedestrians, motorcycles, and cyclists.

70 Percent of tech companies that have 0 Latinx members on their executive leadership team.

72 Percent of San Jose residents who support a non-police approach to issues such as traffic safety, mental health, school safety and assisting the homeless.

73 Percent of tech companies that have 0 African Americans on their executive leadership team.

73.8 Life expectancy in years for African Americans in 2021 in Santa Clara County, down from 76.4 in 2019; Latinx life expectancy: 77.4 down from 80.5; Asian/Pacific Islander life expectancy: 81.7 down from 83.2; White life expectancy: 82.1 down from 82.9.
Percent of SJSU students who reported that COVID-19 had “somewhat or very negatively” impacted their mental health and overall well-being.\textsuperscript{46}

Amount in dollars of the average stock price per share among all public Silicon Valley companies at the end of 2021, which is more than 5 hours of gross pay for minimum wage workers.\textsuperscript{47}

Hourly wage in dollars needed to afford to buy a median-priced, single-family home in San Jose ($255,635 per year).\textsuperscript{48}

Number of overdose deaths by Fentanyl in Santa Clara County, rising from 90 in 2020, and 29 in 2019.\textsuperscript{49}

Number of affordable housing units completed between July 1, 2021 and June 30, 2022, down from 417 the previous year; in 2018, the Mayor and City Council established the goal of building 10,000 new affordable units by 2022; 8,372 affordable housing units are needed to reach this goal.\textsuperscript{50}

Number of sweeps of homeless encampments in San Jose in 2021.\textsuperscript{51}

Number of houseless people who died on the streets of Santa Clara County in 2021, a 55% increase from pre-pandemic levels, and the most ever recorded.\textsuperscript{52}

Amount in dollars that Westfield Valley Fair Mall charges its workers each year for parking, many of whom make minimum wage.\textsuperscript{53}

Number of affordable apartments (9 developments) completed by Santa Clara County with 2016 Measure A funding, serving 1,640 formerly homeless and low-income community members.\textsuperscript{54}

Number of injuries to Latinx community members caused by San Jose Police Department in use of force incidents from 2017 to 2021 in comparison to 565 cases for Whites, noting also that injuries tended to be more severe for Latinx community members.\textsuperscript{55}

Number of beds for year-round temporary shelter capacity for the houseless, an increase of almost 20% since January 2020.\textsuperscript{56}

Number of people who died from COVID-19 in Santa Clara County since the start of the pandemic.\textsuperscript{57}

Median monthly rent in dollars in the San Jose-Sunnyvale-Santa Clara metro area in December, 2021, up 20% from previous year, making it the most expensive metro area to rent in the U.S.; studio median rent: $2,463, 1-bedroom median rent: $2,771, 2-bedroom median rent: $3,410.\textsuperscript{58}

Number of people who are homeless in San Jose on any given night, up 11% from 2019.\textsuperscript{59}
10,028  Number of people who are homeless in Santa Clara County on any given night, up 3% from 2019.60

14,337  Amount spent per pupil in dollars in the Franklin McKinley School District, where 59% are Latinx students, and the average household income is $75,898.61

18,498  Number of total affordable housing units in San Jose that are city funded with affordable restrictions.62

19,764  Amount spent per pupil in dollars in the Saratoga Union School District, where 4% are Latinx students, and the average household income is $195,584.63

31,000  Average annual income in dollars of service workers in Silicon Valley.64

37,731  Average annual income in dollars of a person living on the east side of San Jose, where 90% are Latinx and Asian (i.e., predominantly Filipino and Vietnamese).65

43,000  Number of people that moved out of the San Jose metro area between April 2020 and July 2021, which is an almost 8-fold increase from before the pandemic (2019) when 5,400 residents moved.66

45,467  Number of U.S. born residents in the San Jose metro area who lack health insurance.67

54,256  Number of White people living in poverty in Santa Clara County, compared to 52,877 for Latinx, 47,123 for Asians, 5,382 for African American, and 1,071 for Native American.68

56,867  Number of immigrants in the San Jose metro area who lack health care coverage.69

60,228  Average annual income in dollars for full-time Latinx workers in Silicon Valley, which is a $404 decrease from the previous year.70

70,085  Average annual income in dollars for full-time African American workers, which is a $2,593 decrease from the previous year.71

90,000  Average annual income in dollars for full-time female workers versus $125,000 for male workers.72

123,131  Average annual income in dollars for full-time Asian American workers, which is a $4,933 increase from previous year.73

128,834  Median annual income in dollars of Silicon Valley workers, which increases to $170,000 if stock options are included.74

146,690  Average annual income in dollars for full-time White workers, which is a $3,046 increase from previous year.75
160,000  Number of undocumented immigrants in Santa Clara County.76

164,900  Number of immigrants in San Jose with limited English proficiency (languages spoken at home other than English include Spanish (43%), Vietnamese (23%), Chinese (18%), Tagalog (3%) and Hindi (3%).77

244,000  Number of children in Silicon Valley who live in households (46%) that don’t earn enough to provide the basics of food, shelter, and clothing (51% of these are Latinx).78

450,000  Number of clients that Second Harvest of Silicon Valley provides groceries to each month since March of 2022.79

1.8 Million  Amount in dollars of the median sales price of an existing single-family home in Santa Clara County in April, 2022, up from $1.5 million (23%) from April, 2021.80

4.1 Billion  Amount in dollars of Zoom’s revenue, up 10x since start of the pandemic.81

8.7 Billion  Amount in dollars that tech titans and real estate paid for office buildings, up $6.2 billion from 2020.82

30 Billion  Amount in dollars of Netflix’s revenue, up 50% from 2020.83

118 Billion  Amount in dollars of Facebook’s revenue, up $86 billion from 2020.84

258 Billion  Amount in dollars of Google’s revenue, up $183 billion from 2020.85

340 Billion  Amount in dollars of Santa Clara County’s Gross Domestic Product (GDP), an increase of 4.4%, which is the largest increase in the nation, up from $340 billion in 2020.86

366 Billion  Amount in dollars of Apple’s revenue, up $275 billion from 2020.87

1.4 Trillion  Total market value (“market capitalization” or “market cap”) of Alphabet (Google) Corporation in June 2022.88

3 Trillion  Total market value of Apple Corporation on January 3, 2022, tripling the record breaking $1T benchmark reached in 2018, and making it the most valuable company on the planet at the time. However, Apple and many tech industry stocks have lost significant value since this high (down over 28% to $2.139T in June 2022).89
SOURCES

11. https://www.ed-data.org/county/Santa-Clara/; 2019-20 data used as this is when students were last in schools.
17. https://jointventure.org/download-the-2022-index; Joint Venture includes both Santa Clara County and San Mateo County when talking about Silicon Valley.
22. https://twitter.com/svdebug/status/1515085788127510528?s=20&t=eewi1NzZ0XdiHXVjrGA
27. https://www.ed-data.org/county/Santa-Clara/; 2019-20 data used as this is when students were last in schools.
San Jose metro area is defined as San Jose, Santa Clara and Sunnyvale.

Jenny Lam, Deputy County Counsel, Santa Clara County, sent data to authors.

Joint Venture includes both Santa Clara County and San Mateo County when talking about Silicon Valley.

contacted Tran Nguyen to confirm the exact number of homeless sweeps through December, 2021
in the face of a slowing economy, rising inflation, rising interest rates, and supply chain disruptions. This drop of almost $1 trillion suggests the potential volatility of the tech industry in the face of a slowing economy, rising inflation, rising interest rates, and supply chain disruptions.