



State of Bay Area Blacks

A Look at Black Population Trends in the Bay Area, Part I

Executive Summary

with Selected Tables & Maps

Commissioned by:



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1990-2008

Submitted by:

Urban Strategies Council

Written by:

Junious Williams

Steve Spiker

Eron Budi

Leah Skahen

Full Report Available Online

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About BABIP and the State of Bay Area Blacks Reports and Convenings

With members representing more than 30 local foundations, Bay Area Blacks in Philanthropy (BABIP) is a regional, nonprofit membership organization whose mission is to advance the interests of African Americans in philanthropy and address the impact of racial disparity within philanthropic institutions and African American communities. Bringing together foundation professionals-trustees, program officers, administrative and technical staff – with corporate, governmental, and association representatives, BABIP is engaged in the critical dialogues and debates that affect our core constituents and leverages our role in helping to rebuild and strengthen Black neighborhoods and the nonprofit infrastructure that serves them.

As part of its core interest, BABIP has begun to explore the impact of lingering economic volatility, persistent disparities in health, education, and employment, and wide-spread development activity on the Bay Area's Black community.

The first decade of the 21st Century has been a tumultuous one with major political changes, challenges for social change and economic upheavals both nationally and regionally. Amidst these political, social and economic changes, there also have been substantial population changes in the Bay Area including the continuing pattern of immigration into Bay Area cities and migration of Bay Area residents out of the state and out of the region. One significant population change has been the pattern of movement of African-American within the Bay Area and outside of the Bay Area. As documented in this report, the African-American population in the Bay Area has both declined and shifted between 2000 and 2008. These shifts have important implications for government, business, service providers, civic organizations and philanthropy and how they work to ensure continued opportunities for African-Americans and improvements in the conditions of African-American neighborhoods and the outcomes experienced by African-American residents and families.

Several months ago, Urban Strategies Council staff met with BABIP leadership to discuss our common interests and concerns in the status of African-Americans in the Bay Area. Of particular concern was to develop an understanding of the population trends for African-Americans in the Bay Area and the status of African-Americans in several critical areas including:

- Education;
- Health and environment;
- Employment and income;
- Crime and incarceration; and
- Economic development.

While we agreed that conducting a research project to document the patterns was an important foundation for engaging in discussions to identify strategies to improve outcomes for African-Americans, we concluded that we were constrained by the timing of the release of new U.S. Census data which is scheduled for release in the first half of 2011.

After some discussion, we decided to proceed with the research project in two phases. The first phase, which is presented in this report, examines population trends and selected demographic data for African-Americans in nine Bay Area counties between 2000 and 2008, using a combination of U.S. Census data for 2000 and California Department of Finance population estimates for 2008. Using this preliminary analysis, In this analysis we drill down from the regional to the county to the city to the census tracts level to examine where African-Americans have lived between 2000 and 2008. Based on this analysis, we were able to identify ten census tracts and their corresponding neighborhoods with the highest density of African-American residents.

BABIP is convening a conference in late September 2010 to present the results of the initial research and engage its members and other convening participants in discussions focused on identifying: 1) other data to include in the Phase 2 report; 2) evidence-based and promising strategies and programs which have potential for improving outcomes for African-Americans in the Bay Area; and 3) recommendations to philanthropy, government and communities on the investments that can ensure African-Americans have opportunities for success in the Bay Area.

As the reader will note, this report contains only limited information on the five content areas cited above as the lenses for examining the status of African-Americans in the Bay Area. This will be the focal point of the Phase 2 research report along with an update of the population trend data presented in this Phase 1 report.

This research is comprised of two distinct phases: the first consists of this initial analysis of the changing demographics and characteristics of the African-American populations in the Bay Area. A second phase, planned for early 2011, will include the latest statistics on populations from the 2010 Census and the updated American Community Survey's five-year estimates, as well as a profile of several key indicators including: health, safety, education, employment and income, environmental conditions, and economic development.

The questions raised by BABIP that this report addresses include:

1. Where did African-Americans reside in the Bay Area in 2000 and what changes occurred through 2008?
2. What are the population characteristics of the African-American neighborhoods and how do they compare to other racial/ethnic groups?
3. What cities and neighborhoods had the highest concentration of African-Americans in 2000 and 2008?
4. What are the most significant needs in African-American neighborhoods and what are the implications for philanthropic investments in the African-American communities?

While the interest of BABIP is primarily on Black and African-American residents, there are some notable limitations to the administrative datasets in common use. While the U.S. Census differentiates between African-American and other peoples from Africa, the Caribbean and elsewhere who are considered 'Black' by the Census, other sources such as California's Department of Finance (DOF)—which produces definitive population estimates each year—only provide statistics for one Black grouping. The DOF category includes African-Americans who are multi-generational residents, recent immigrants and refugees from Africa, and certain other people groups such

Haitians. We have been careful not to confuse these two different data conventions, and have identified sources and definitions in each section of this report.

“If change is to take hold in the Black community”, says Cedric Brown, BABIP Chair, “there must first be an intentional attempt to raise consciousness and opportunities for structured conversation. Providing sound data and an opportunity for constructive dialogue is an essential aspect of that process. We’re hopeful that the State of the Race reports and conversations will catalyze new approaches, messages, and investment strategies.”

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Bay Area has seen many changes in the past twenty years, changes in the housing stock, in the education sector, in the employment opportunities and the industries based here, in the workforce development arena, in economic development activities, and in the demographics of its populace. Long recognized as a multi-cultural region with rich ethnic communities tied to established neighborhoods, the diversity of the Bay Area has changed constantly, with no ethnic group remaining demographically static over the past two decades. For organizations and individuals involved in serving and supporting the Black and African-American communities in the Bay Area, it is important to understand the changes that are impacting these communities and how these populations themselves are changing. This report examines the State of the Race: an analysis of the changing Black community in the Bay Area and begins to present data and information pertinent to the philanthropic, community building, and governmental sectors.

This report sets out to answer four main questions posed by the Bay Area Blacks in Philanthropy.

Where did African-Americans reside in the Bay Area in 2000 and what changes occurred through 2008?

Across the nine county region, the population has increased by 519,879 people between 2000 and 2008 according to the California Department of Finance (DOF). Contra Costa County experienced the greatest percentage gain (+10.5%), while the population of all counties increased by an average of 7.6%. However, population growth has slowed somewhat compared to the ten year period between 1990 and 2000. While overall populations are up, the Black population dropped across the region—down 2.2% or 11,268 people from 2000 to 2008. At a county level, Alameda, San Francisco, San Mateo and Marin all experienced declines in the proportion of Blacks among their populations, while the other five counties saw a rise in Black population proportions. Alameda County—with the largest Black population—experienced a drop of eight percent or 17,141 Black persons.

In Alameda County, the proportional drop in Black population was a result of increased proportions of Latinos and Asians. In San Francisco, the drop in Blacks as a proportion was offset by an increase in the proportion of White, Latino, and Asian people.

Further analysis at a county level revealed that the Black population had distinct gaps in age distribution: for several counties there was an alarming drop in the populations of 20 to 29 year old Black males, while in some counties this gap is visible in both the male and female populations. Where the gap in population exists for both genders, we can consider macro causes like birth rates and family size preferences as related. However in county sized areas where only males aged 20 to 29 are underrepresented, we must consider other, more troubling factors like incarceration, homicide and premature deaths as possible contributors to this reality.

An analysis of the diversity of each county shows that Marin, Sonoma and Napa counties were the least diverse. Nevertheless, all nine Bay Area counties experienced increases in diversity between 2000 and 2008. Alameda County was the most diverse in both years.

Between 1990 and 2000, the percentage of census tracts with over 50% Black population dropped from 5.7% to 3.3%, and the percentage of with over 30% Blacks went from 9.6% down to 7.3%. In

1990, Alameda County had 26.8% of tracts with over 30% Black, yet only 20.9% of tracts in 2000 had this proportion of Blacks. Solano County went from having 6 tracts with over 30% Black in 1990 to none in 2000. Similarly, San Mateo County went from 5 tracts with over 30% Black to only one between 1990 and 2000.

What are the population characteristics of the African-American community and how do they compare to other racial/ethnic groups?

The scope of this report did not allow for a comprehensive analysis of the local level conditions for all Black communities in the region, however this is planned for 2011 along with an update using Census 2010 data and a more in-depth analysis across several key areas such as economic development, income and assets, crime and reentry, environment and health and more. For this report we prepared a snapshot look into some demographics for the ten census tracts that had the highest proportion of Blacks in 2000. These ten tracts are all within the cities of Oakland and San Francisco and all have populations that are between 70 to 79% Black. Across the nine county region, 101 out of 1,045 tracts had populations with at least 30% Blacks in 2000: 67 were located in Alameda County, 12 in San Francisco, 11 in Contra Costa, 8 in Solano, 2 in Marin and one in San Mateo County.

For the ten tracts with the highest proportions of Blacks, most socio-economic indicators showed very consistent patterns: these neighborhoods compared poorly to the overall county level statistics. In eight out of the ten tracts, the rate of home ownership was much lower than the county average; Bayview and Toler Heights were the exceptions and these represent more established Black communities. In each of the ten tracts, unemployment levels were higher than the county average, and in all except for Toler Heights, income levels were significantly lower than the average. Education attainment was also much lower in most of the ten tracts, with all having much lower rates of bachelor and post-graduate degrees than the county averages—rates often ranged from one-third to one-half of those of their respective counties.

What cities and neighborhoods had the highest concentration of African-Americans in 2000 and 2008?

From 2000 through 2008, Oakland remained the city with the largest Black population, although there was a 25% decrease in this population over this time period. San Francisco had the second largest Black population, followed by Richmond; these cities saw reductions in their Black populations of 17.6% and 18.6%, respectively.

Cities experiencing a noticeable increase in their Black populations include Mountain View (+119%), Antioch (+115%) and San Leandro (+76%). Daly City and Berkeley had the largest declines in Black population, decreasing by 42% and 36%, respectively. In Oakland and Richmond, the drop in Black population was offset almost completely by Whites, while in Berkeley the decline in Black population (and for Multi-Race persons) was a result of increased proportions of Whites and Asians. In Daly City, the decrease across all ethnic groups was a result of an increased proportion of Asians. In Vallejo, the drop in Black and White proportions was matched by increased proportions of Asian and Multi-race persons.

Within the region, no cities have a majority Black population. Instead most cities have a fairly diverse population with certain neighborhoods and communities that are predominately one race or ethnicity. In Oakland there are several neighborhoods that are a majority Black, including *Acorn*, *Prescott*, *Havenscourt*, *Eastmont*, *Millsmont*, *Hoover/Longfellow* and *Maxwell*. In San Francisco the neighborhoods with a majority Black population are Ingleside and Bayview-Hunters Point. There are also concentrated Black communities (in this report defined only by census tracts) in the cities of Menlo Park, East Palo Alto, Vallejo, Fairfield, Vacaville, Pittsburg, and Antioch.

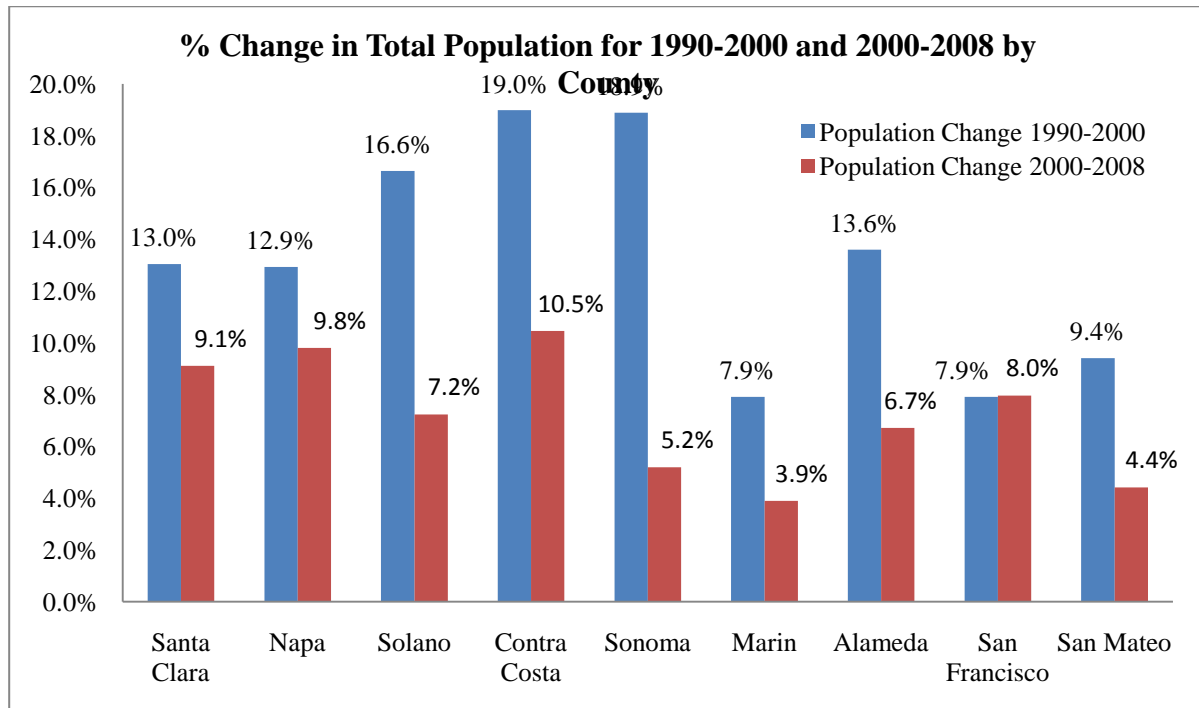
One demographic shift of note: in 1990 there were several tracts in rural Sonoma County with modest Black populations which—in the 2000 Census—show almost no Black residents. In general, the central counties in the region have experienced decreases overall in their Black populations, along with corresponding increases in outer ring counties and cities. Anecdotal evidence suggests that many Black (and other races) families are moving even further from the Bay Area in search of newer and lower cost housing in cities such as Tracy, Lodi, and Stockton.

What are the most significant needs in African-American communities and what are the implications for philanthropic investments in the African-American communities?

In this report we outline some of the population changes within the Black communities of the Bay Area and identify the regions and neighborhoods most affected by these demographic shifts. Our analysis indicates that many historically Black inner-city neighborhoods are in a state of flux. The resulting pattern shows a more dispersed Black population throughout the Bay Area, particularly among the increasingly diverse outer counties of the region. As our populations shift and target communities move, those of us in the philanthropic, community-based organization, service, and public agency sectors need to be alert and responsive to these changes in order to tailor, adjust, and refocus our efforts accordingly. While none of the historically Black neighborhoods have disappeared over the past twenty years, there are areas experiencing the forces of gentrification, as well as an influx of other ethnic populations, often resulting in repositioned Black populations.

It is important that we all understand the implications of these changes for our work. For philanthropy: are we adequately supporting efforts in newer Black communities in the outer suburbs? Are Black residents voluntarily relocating due to increased economic stability and success or as a result of crisis and flight from foreclosures and inner city violence? For government agencies: do we understand the changes occurring in our communities and are we meeting the needs of our shifting populations? For community-based organizations and other service providing agencies: do we know how stable the families are that are moving and are they able to access our services (or others who provide these services) in their new communities? Do necessary services even exist in newer, less developed communities?

Figure 1 Percentage of Population Changes by County from 1990-2008



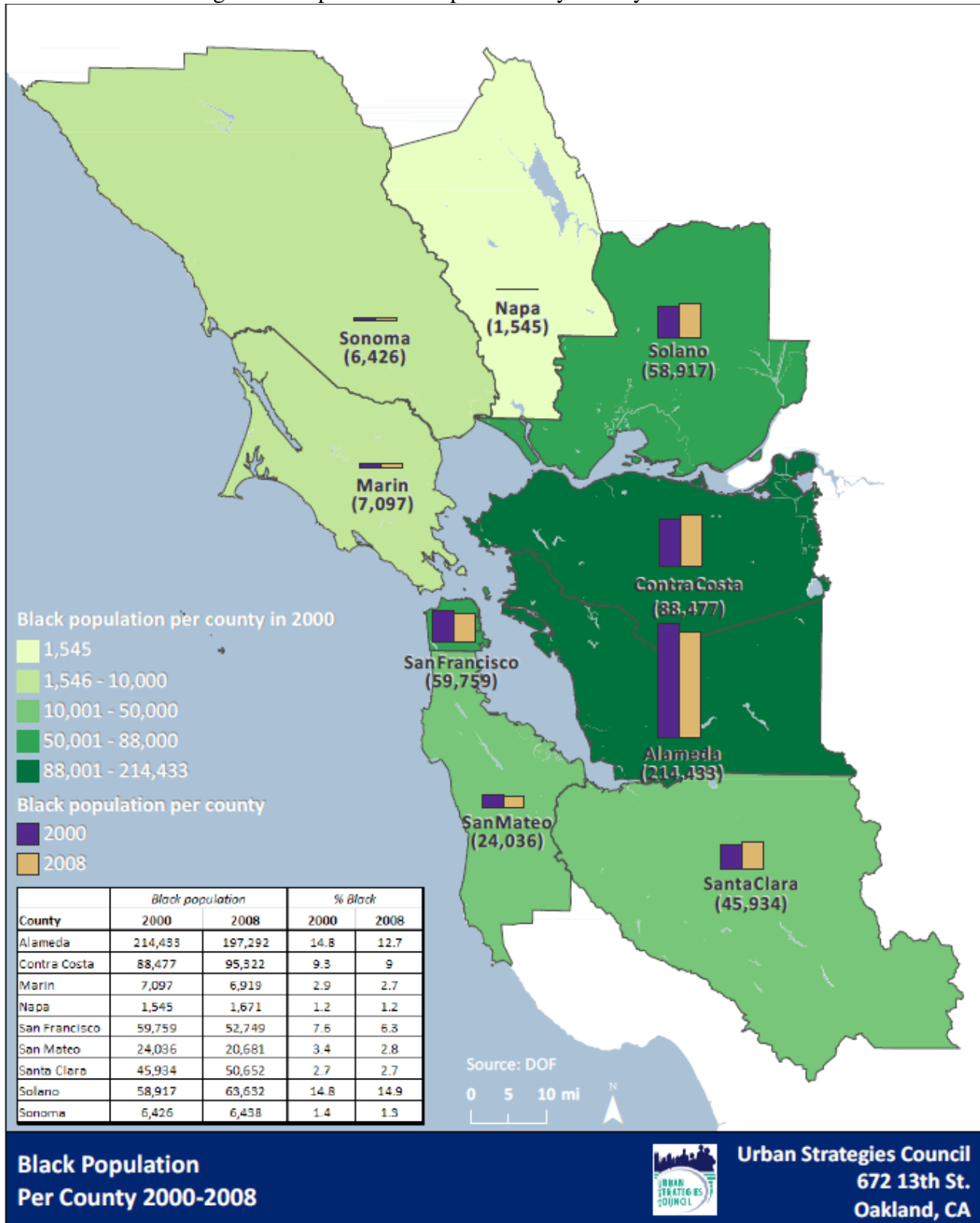
Source: U.S. Census Bureau and California Department of Finance.

Table 1 Regional Black Population Change by County 2000-2008 Ranked by % Change

County Name	Pop in 2000	Pop in 2008	Pop Change 00-08	% Change 00-08
Santa Clara	45,934	50,652	4,718	10.3%
Napa	1,545	1,671	126	8.1%
Solano	58,917	63,632	4,715	8.0%
Contra Costa	88,477	95,322	6,845	7.7%
Sonoma	6,426	6,438	12	0.2%
Marin	7,097	6,919	-178	-2.5%
Alameda	214,433	197,292	-17,141	-8.0%
San Francisco	59,759	52,749	-7,010	-11.7%
San Mateo	24,036	20,681	-3,355	-14.0%
All 9 Counties	506,624	495,356	-11,268	-2.2%

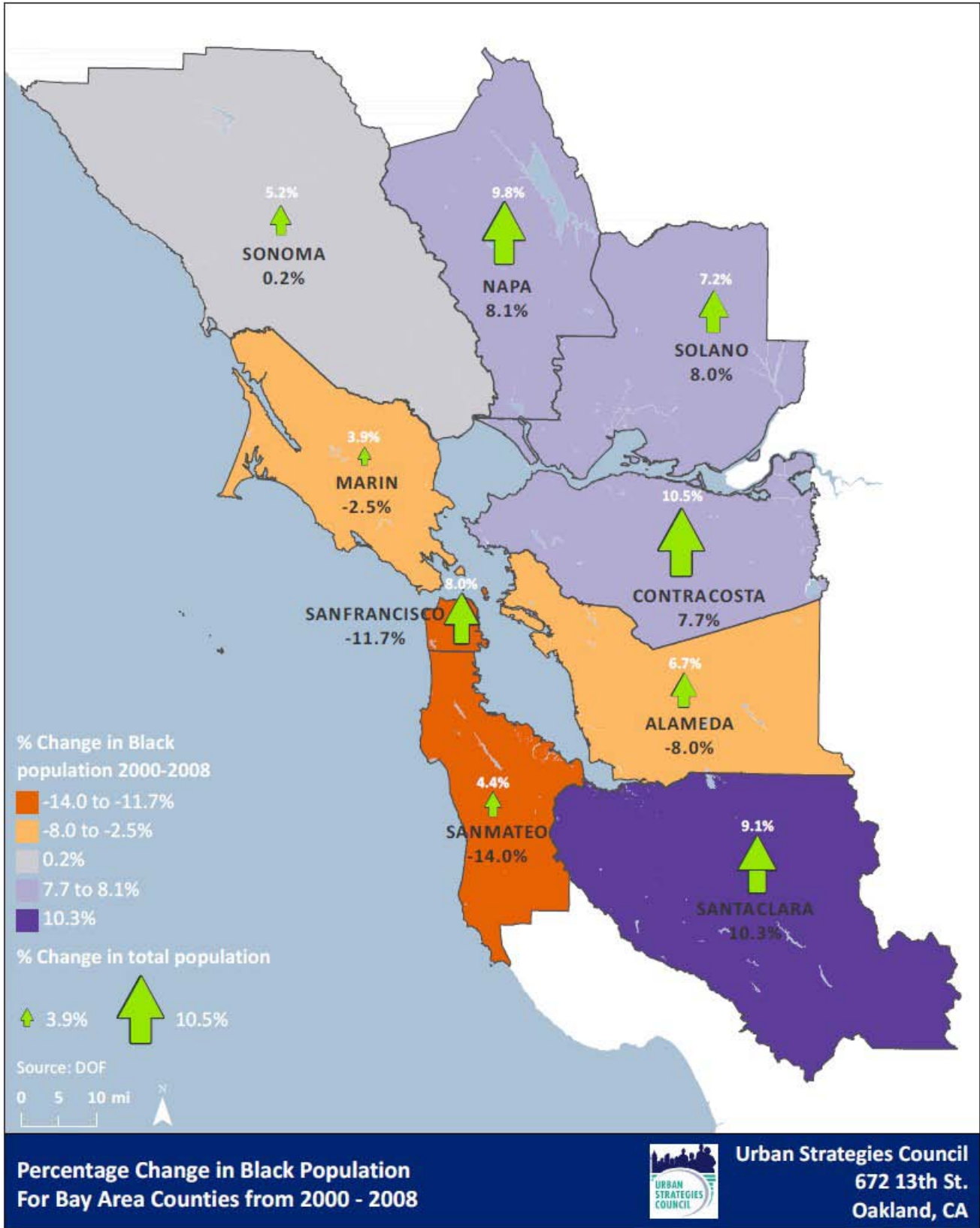
Source: California Department of Finance.

Figure 2 Map of Black Populations by County for 2000-2008



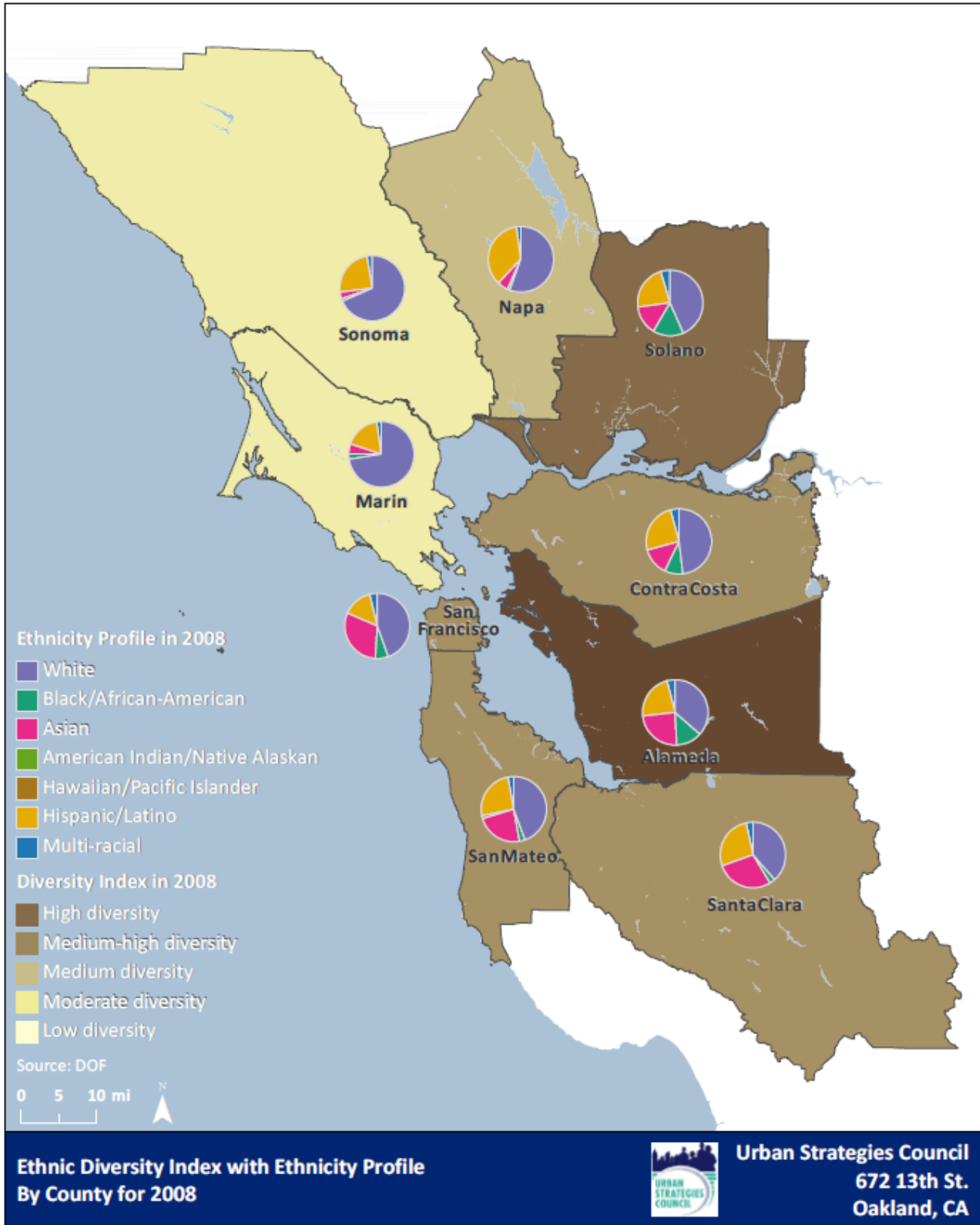
Source: California Department of Finance.

Figure 3 Map of Change in Total and Black Populations by County from 2000-2008



Source: California Department of Finance.

Figure 4 Map of County Diversity Index and Ethnic Composition in 2008



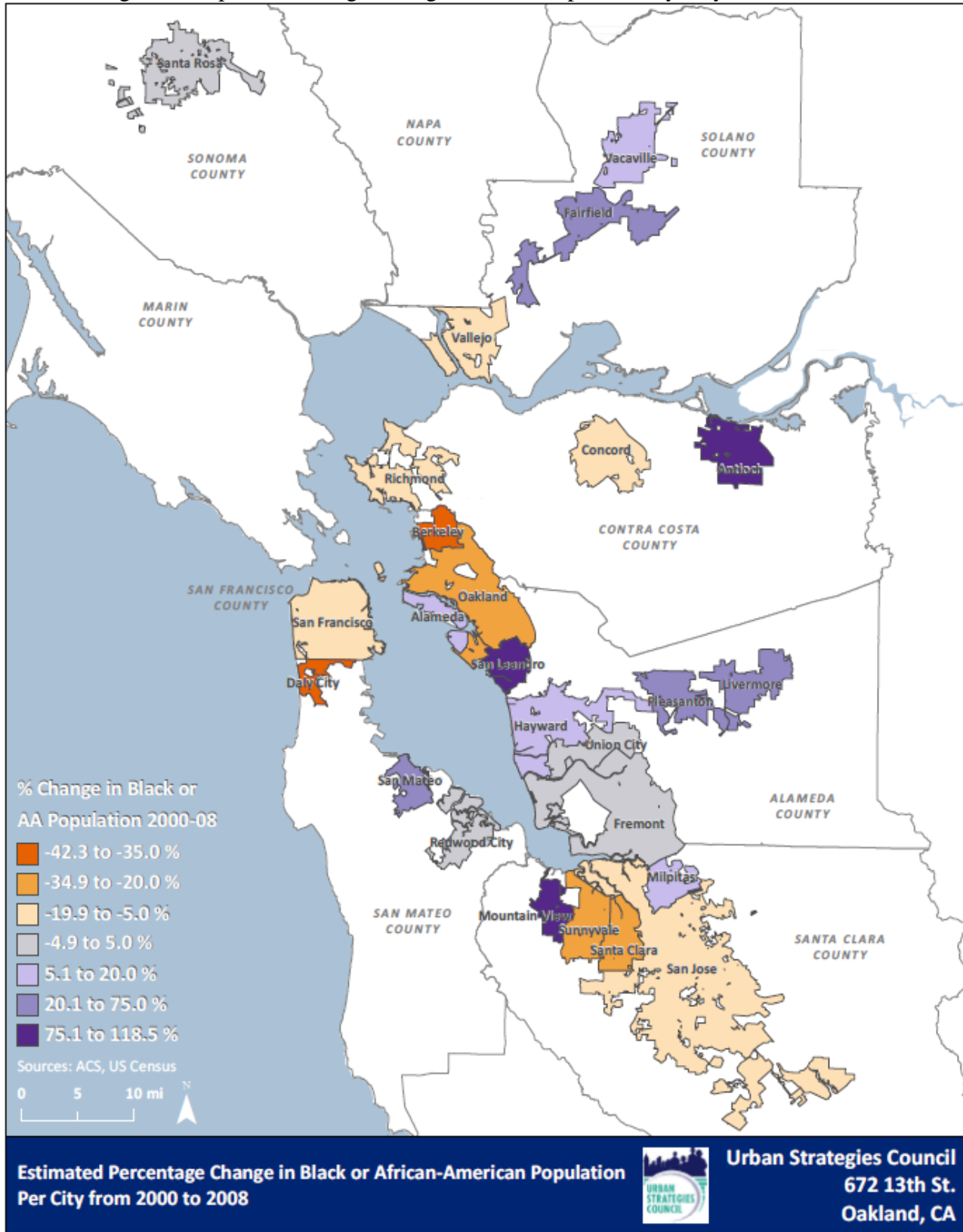
Source: California Department of Finance.

Table 2 Black Population Change by City 2000-2008

City Name	Black Pop in 2000	Black Pop in 2008	% Change of Black Pop 00-08	% Black Pop in 2000	% Black Pop in 2008
Alameda	4,488	4,895	9.1%	6.2%	6.6%
Antioch	8,824	18,924	114.5%	9.7%	18.9%
Berkeley	14,007	9,040	-35.5%	13.6%	8.2%
Concord	3,706	3,262	-12.0%	3.0%	2.6%
Daly City	4,720	2,724	-42.3%	4.6%	2.8%
Fairfield	14,446	19,809	37.1%	15.0%	19.2%
Fremont	6,310	6,612	4.8%	3.1%	3.3%
Hayward	15,374	16,237	5.6%	11.0%	11.3%
Livermore	1,148	1,846	60.8%	1.6%	2.2%
Milpitas	2,295	2,713	18.2%	3.7%	4.0%
Mountain View	1,789	3,909	118.5%	2.5%	5.1%
Oakland	142,460	106,491	-25.2%	35.7%	29.1%
Pleasanton	876	1,084	23.7%	1.4%	1.4%
Redwood City	1,916	1,942	1.4%	2.5%	2.6%
Richmond	35,777	29,137	-18.6%	36.1%	27.0%
San Francisco	60,515	49,868	-17.6%	7.8%	6.2%
San Jose	31,349	28,488	-9.1%	3.5%	3.1%
San Leandro	7,849	13,794	75.7%	9.9%	15.7%
San Mateo	2,397	3,436	43.4%	2.6%	3.6%
Santa Clara	2,341	1,763	-24.7%	2.29%	1.6%
Santa Rosa	3,177	3,278	3.2%	2.2%	2.0%
Sunnyvale	2,927	2,304	-21.3%	2.2%	1.7%
Union City	4,479	4,625	3.3%	6.7%	7.5%
Vacaville	8,880	10,467	17.9%	10.0%	11.3%
Vallejo	27,655	22,815	-17.5%	23.7%	19.5%
Total	409,705	369,463	-9.8%	9.6%	8.4%

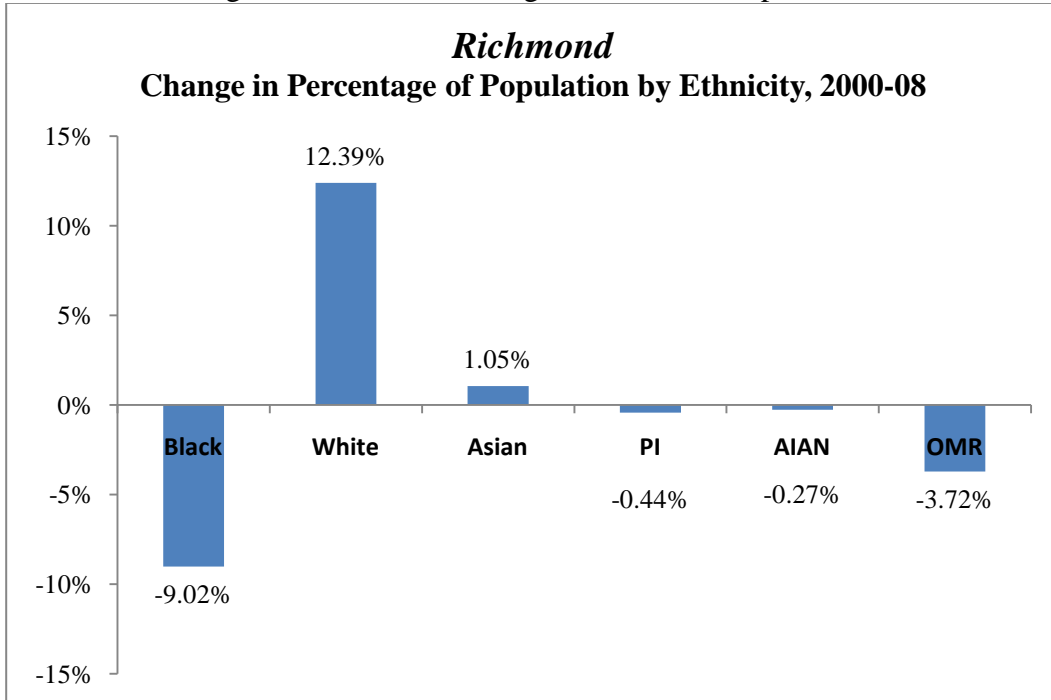
Source: U.S. Census Bureau and American Community Survey.

Figure 5 Map of Percentage Change in Black Population by City from 2000-2008



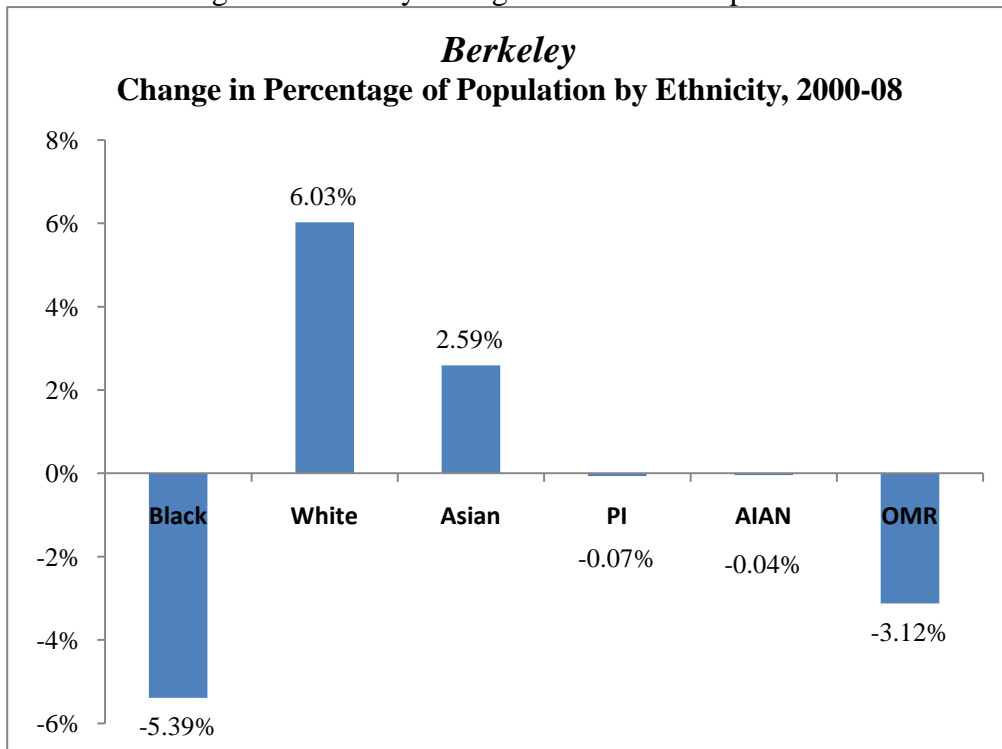
Source: US Census and American Community Survey.

Figure 6 Richmond Changes in Ethnic Composition



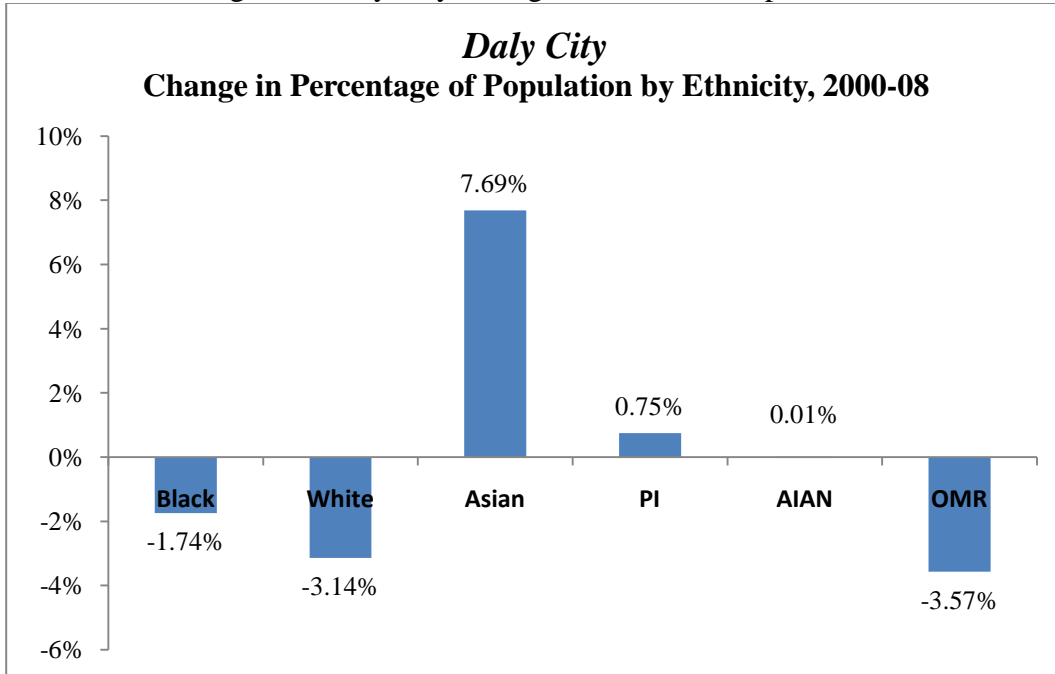
Source: U.S. Census Bureau and American Community Survey.

Figure 7 Berkeley Changes in Ethnic Composition



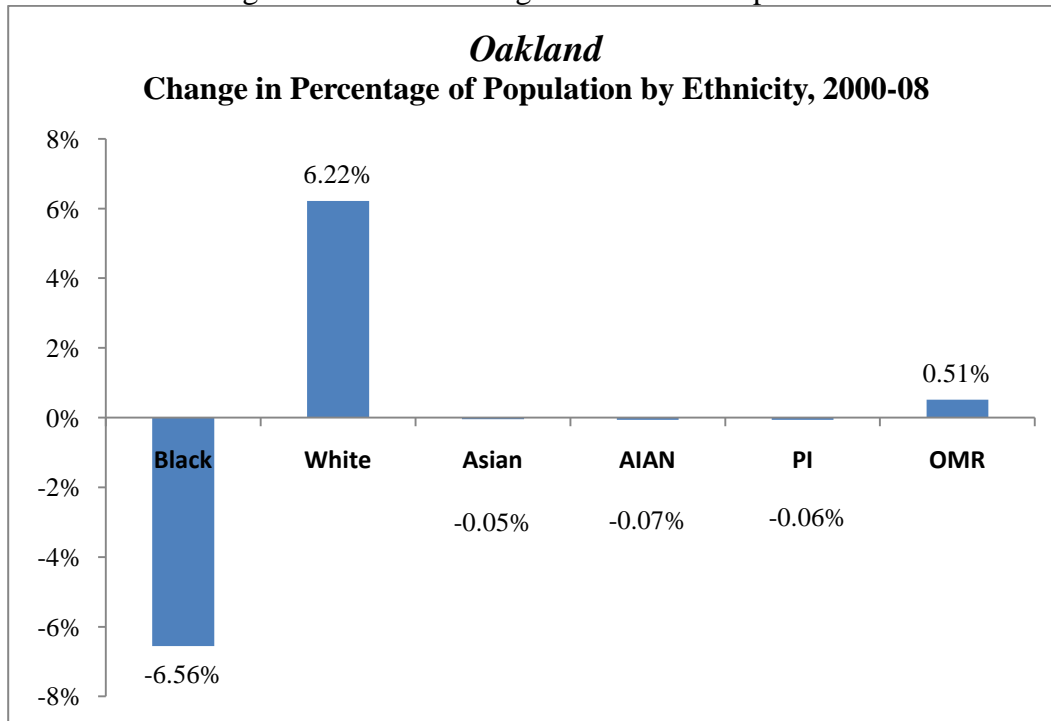
Source: U.S. Census Bureau and American Community Survey.

Figure 8 Daly City Changes in Ethnic Composition



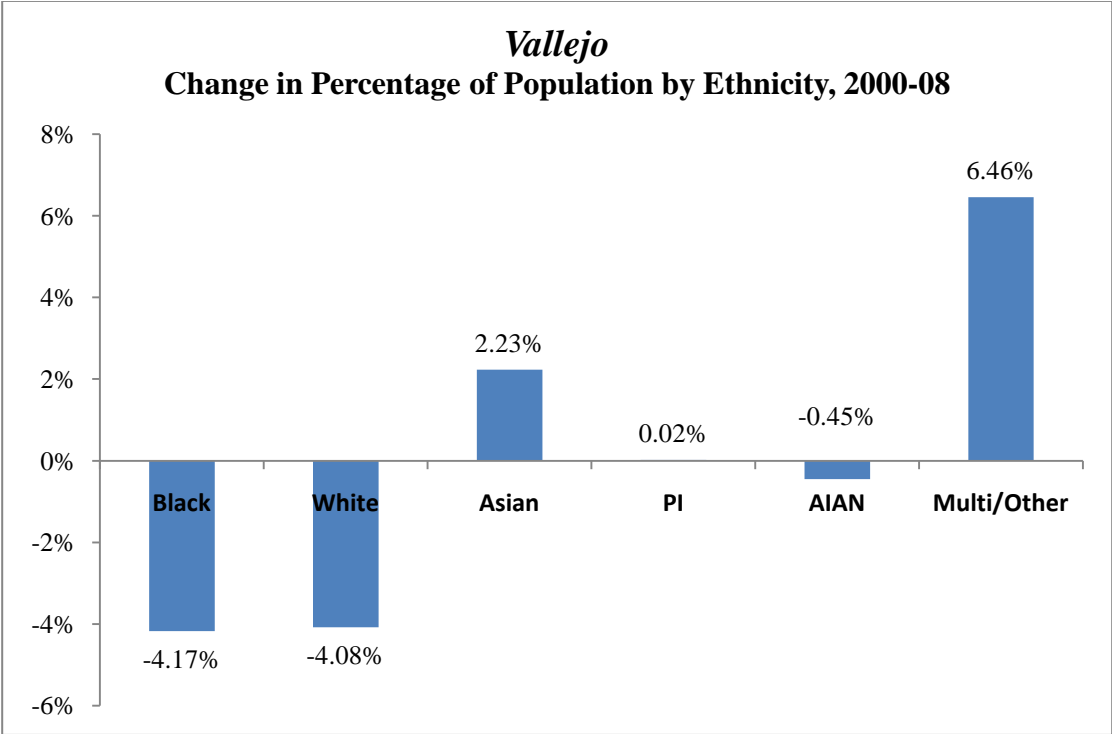
Source: U.S. Census Bureau and American Community Survey.

Figure 9 Oakland Changes in Ethnic Composition



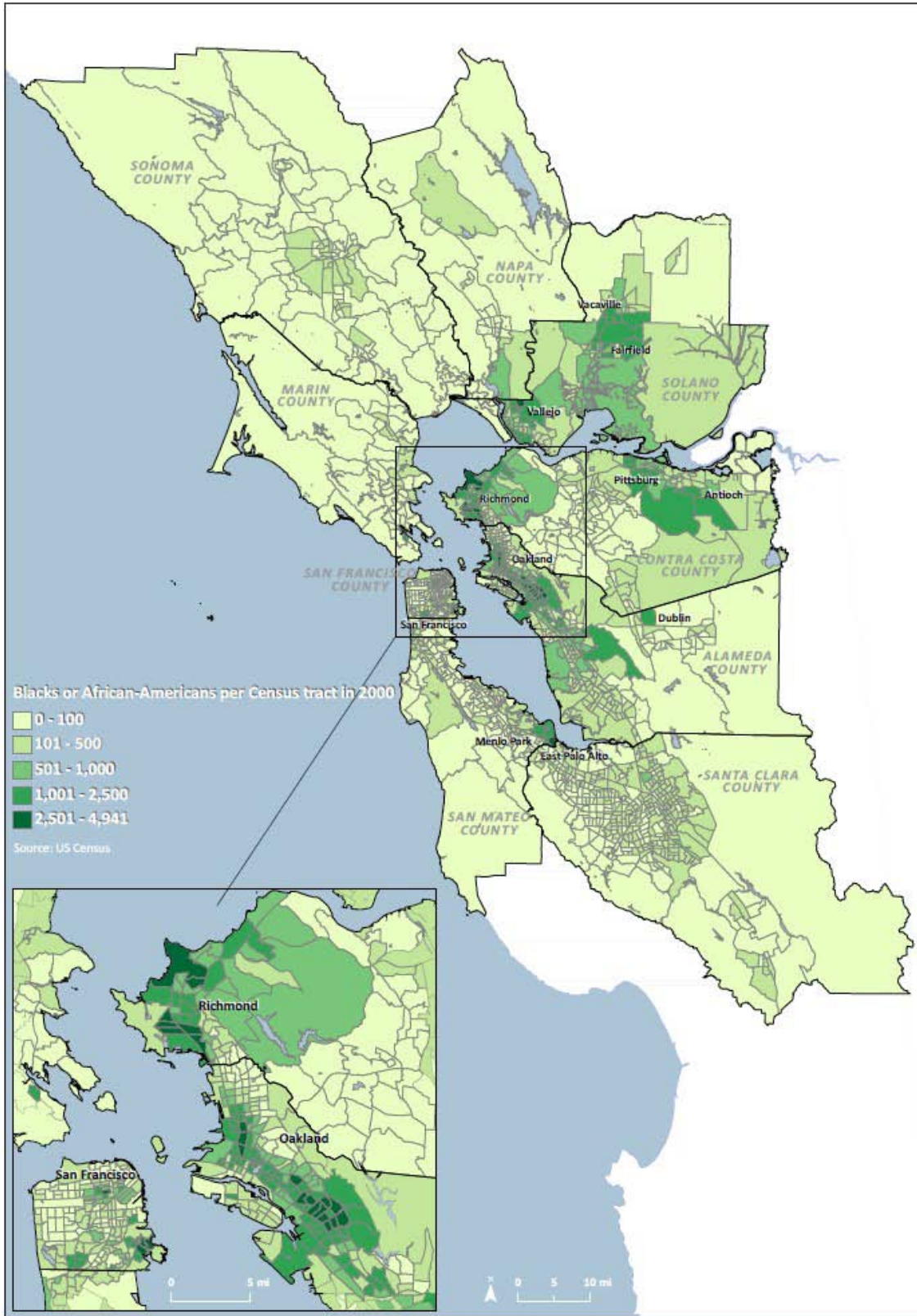
Source: U.S. Census Bureau and American Community Survey.

Figure 10 Vallejo Changes in Ethnic Composition



Source: U.S. Census Bureau and American Community Survey.

Figure 11 Number of Black Persons Per Census Tract in 2000



Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

Table 3 Tracts with the Highest Percent of Black Population

Tract No.	% of Black or African-American Population	County	City	Neighborhood
4023	79.3%	Alameda	Oakland	Acorn
4021	79.2%	Alameda	Oakland	Acorn
4098	77.1%	Alameda	Oakland	Toler Heights/Golf Links
4018	76.1%	Alameda	Oakland	Prescott
4025	75.2%	Alameda	Oakland	Oak Center
4024	74.1%	Alameda	Oakland	Oak Center
231.03	73.7%	San Francisco	San Francisco	Bayview Hunters Point
231.02	72.9%	San Francisco	San Francisco	Bayview Hunters Point
4010	71.2%	Alameda	Oakland	Longfellow
4015	69.7%	Alameda	Oakland	Clawson/McClymonds

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.