

20 | **WOMEN & GIRLS**
26 | OF ORANGE COUNTY



Acknowledgments

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Purpose & Scope

Data within this report provides essential context regarding who the women and girls are within Orange County (OC) and offers meaningful insight into their lived experiences. Drawing from publicly available and reliable data sources, the report presents data that can be utilized to explore the condition and well-being of women and girls across the county.

To allow for comparisons, the data included incorporates broader geographical regions and subgroups whenever feasible, such as the state of California (CA), older women (55+) and girls under 18 within OC. This underscores areas OC is faring well or where persistent gaps remain. Beyond descriptive statistics, the report examines areas of concern and opportunity that can guide efforts to support women and girls. Recognizing both strengths and challenges ensures that stakeholders can design interventions that address the diverse needs of women and girls in OC. The insights gained serve as a foundation for developing highly targeted support programs, policy initiatives and community partnerships.

By translating data into practical insight, this report seeks to drive change, equipping policymakers, nonprofit organizations, educators, healthcare providers, and community leaders with evidence needed to design programs that are effective and responsive. In doing so, OC can build a stronger foundation of resilience and opportunity, ensuring that every woman and girl has access to the resources necessary to thrive.

Data Summary

Economic Equity & Financial Security

- Unemployment rates for OC women (4.1%) are lower than CA women (5.5%).
- For household income, OC homes have a lower percentage of low income under \$75,000 (31.5%) compared to CA (38.5%) and a higher percentage of high income above \$150,000 – OC (38.1%) versus CA (32.2%).
- OC women make more on average per year (+\$3,492) compared to CA women, although, there is a slightly wider wage gap (1% difference) between women and men reported earnings.
- OC women have a slightly lower poverty rate (10%) compared to CA women (13%).

Education

- More OC women (44%) have at least a Bachelor's degree compared to CA women (38.6%).
- OC women who identify as Black or African American reported a lower percentage of postsecondary degrees (1.7%) than CA (5.2%).
- Over the past 5 years, OC women reporting high school, or some college with no degree steadily decreased. OC Women with a Bachelor's, Graduate or Professional degree gradually increased.

OC Girls Education

- OC girls in grades 3-11 meet CA standards more often in mathematics (62.7%) compared to boys (55.2%) while boys meet CA standard in science slightly more frequently (51.3%) than girls (47.0%).
- Girls (82.2%) have higher college enrollment rates within 12 months compared to boys (74.4%).

OC Girls' Education (Cont.)

- OC high school students have higher rates of absenteeism than elementary students. Although both girls and boys have high absenteeism rates, there are more districts with girls having slightly higher rates for missing 10% or more school days.

Leadership & Representation

- According to the CA Women's Well-Being Index, OC received a low ranking for the political empowerment category (29th out of 58 counties).
- The lowest ranking within this category was for County-level leadership, which has improved from 20% in 2023 to 40% in 2024.
- The highest ranking within this category was School Board Membership (7th out of 58 counties) with women constituting 60% of these elected positions. OC women are represented at higher rates within sales & office professions (55.3%) and service professions (53.2%) compared to men.

Housing & Households

- In OC, 30% of all households include children under 18 years old. Of all households, 11.5% are reported to be headed by women with 40.9% of those including children under 18 years old.
- The median rent for OC is 20% higher than CA and is 69% higher than the US.
- OC has a slightly higher percentage of households with rent equaling 35% or greater of gross income (45.4%) compared to CA (44.2%). This is also true among mortgage costs for homeowners in OC (32.2%) compared to CA (30.9%).

Child & Dependent Care

- Yearly childcare cost averages in OC range from \$13,156 to \$24,284. For women making OC median income without additional support, the average cost for childcare would equate to 24.4% of their income.
- Caregivers report their roles to be difficult, with emotional difficulties reported the highest (74.2%) followed by financial difficulties (60.3%) and physical difficulties (51.4%).
- More than one third of women (36%) who completed the Older Adults Needs Assessment Survey reported being a caregiver to someone 55+ within the past 12 months.

Healthcare

- OC women have approximately the same rate of healthcare coverage compared to CA women. OC women 55+ have a higher rate of insurance coverage (97.9%) than CA women.
- The highest age category of uninsured OC women is between 26 to 34 years old, with almost one in ten women not having health insurance.
- Overall, OC women 55+ have higher rates of insurance coverage across race/ethnicity.

Discrimination

- OC women 55+ reported higher rates of discrimination based on age (51%) compared to men (45%).

Mental Health

- Both OC and CA women reported serious psychological distress in the past year (12.5%). Lifetime suicide ideation (18.6%) decreased slightly over the past year for OC women.
- Top three reported mental or behavioral health concerns for OC women 55+ are memory loss (36.7%), anxiety (27.7%) and depression (20.8%).

OC Girls Mental Health

- Among 9th and 11th grade students, rates of girls reporting that they seriously considered suicide, and rates of girls reporting chronic sadness and hopelessness are both slightly higher than boys. However, these rates have decreased compared to previous years.

OC Girls Health

- Across grade levels, OC girls and boys tend to have similar rates of going to bed later. Students in 11th grade have the highest rates, with 37% of girls and 38% of boys reporting going to bed after 12 AM.
- OC students report eating breakfast more frequently compared to CA. Girls tend to eat breakfast less frequently than boys.

OC Girls Health (Cont.)

- The trend for reported alcohol and drug use, when asked if used within the past 30 days is decreasing across 9th and 11th graders. Girls in general have higher rates of reported alcohol and drug use than boys.
- OC girls perform better than CA average in aerobic capacity and body composition across grades 5, 7 and 9.

Violence & Domestic Abuse

- Weapon-related domestic abuse increased over the years in OC, with approximately 80% involving a personal weapon such as hands, feet, etc.
- Unhoused victims of domestic abuse has increased since 2019.
- Among all juvenile arrests categories (violent, property, sexual, drug and others), the number of arrests involving females are much lower than males. Females are most involved with violent and property crimes.

Conclusion

Women and girls are central to OC's economic vitality, workforce strength and family stability. Overall, women in OC fare comparatively well across several key indicators when measured against statewide benchmarks. However, data reveals important disparities and emerging risks that warrant focused attention by key stakeholders.

In 2024, OC women experienced lower rates of unemployment (4.1%) than CA women (5.5%) and higher average earnings. Household income levels also skew higher, with a smaller share of households earning under \$75,000 and a larger share earning above \$150,000 compared to CA overall. At the same time, OC reports a slightly wider gender wage gap than CA, and economic security remains uneven across populations.

While poverty rates for OC women are lower than statewide rates (10% versus 13%), high housing costs and childcare expenses significantly affect household stability. Childcare costs consume nearly one-quarter of the median income for women without additional support, underscoring how even moderate economic pressures can strain working families.

Introduction

Women have long been at the forefront of shaping our communities, advancing equity and strengthening the fabric of our society. Through leadership and advocacy across countless sectors, women have demonstrated commitment to progress, justice and opportunity. Women leaders across OC continue to step forward to champion causes, uplift others and drive meaningful change. Organizations and advisory bodies play essential roles in strengthening women's participation and ensuring their perspectives help inform policy and governance. In that spirit, the new leadership of the OC Commission on the Status of Women and Girls is proud to contribute to this work through the presentation of the inaugural 2026 Women & Girls of OC Report. This effort intends to elevate voices, highlight emerging needs, and offer insights that can support thoughtful decision-making across sectors.

Re-established in March 2024, the OC Commission on the Status of Women and Girls will work toward a partnership with County departments and agencies, community organizations, and state-level initiatives to strengthen policies and programs that advance women's health, safety, economic well-being and civic engagement. This report moves that work forward by offering data-driven insights that highlight areas where women and girls face persistent challenges and inform responsive, collaborative recommendations to the OC BOS and County departments and agencies. By examining the conditions of women and girls countywide, this report offers insights that may help guide long-term, strategic efforts across key areas of need.

The findings in this report may help highlight areas that influence economic, workforce, housing and financial security for women and girls. The information presented can offer context around access to career pathways, entrepreneurship resources, and leadership opportunities, and may also help inform discussions about affordable housing, financial literacy, and challenges that can disproportionately affect women, in particular single mothers, older adults and survivors of domestic violence.

In the realm of healthcare and mental health, access to preventive care, reproductive health services and culturally competent mental health support are vital to ensuring that women and girls can thrive physically and emotionally throughout all stages of life. This report can help guide the discussion on policy aimed at advancing the well-being of women and girls in OC.

Equally important are initiatives focused on public policy and legal protections, which aim to safeguard women's rights, prevent discrimination, and ensure fair treatment in the workplace, education and civic life. Through advocacy, legislative engagement and community partnerships, the OC Commission on the Status of Women and Girls is committed to creating a more just and inclusive environment for all women and girls.

This report aims to provide an overview of women and girls within OC. The data included allows for evaluation of the condition of women and girls in OC and, when possible, enables comparisons to provide context. It is important to highlight areas of success and identify where additional services may be needed to support women and girls. By doing so, valuable insights can inform and guide the development, continuation and improvement of targeted programs and initiatives that advance equity, equal access, opportunity, and well-being for women and girls in OC.



Orange County Commission on the Status of Women & Girls

Mission Statement

OC Commission on the Status of Women and Girls acts in an advisory capacity to the OC BOS to foster the advancement and improve the lives of women and girls in OC.

Vision Statement

The OC Commission on the Status of Women and Girls will advocate for the lives and wellbeing of women and girls through building strong collaboration with OC stakeholders, identifying needs/gaps, sharing and utilizing resources, as well as engaging, educating and empowering the community on key issues affecting the wellbeing of women and girls in OC.

Commission Overview

Guided by Board Resolution No. 24-028, the Commission serves as a vital advisory body to the OC BOS. Its mandate includes preparing reports and recommendations on critical areas of concern, particularly for those community members facing the greatest challenges. Focus areas as outlined in the Commission bylaws include:

- Discrimination
- Affordable Housing
- Child & Dependent Care
- Mental Health
- Healthcare
- Violence & Domestic Abuse
- Economic Equity & Financial Security
- Education
- Leadership & Representation

The Commission will prepare reports and recommendations to the BOS on these areas. In accordance with Board Resolution No. 24-028, the functions of the Commission are as follows:

1. Annual Research & Reporting

Conduct comprehensive research and analysis into the status of women and girls in the County, and present findings in an annual report to the Board and public in March of each year.

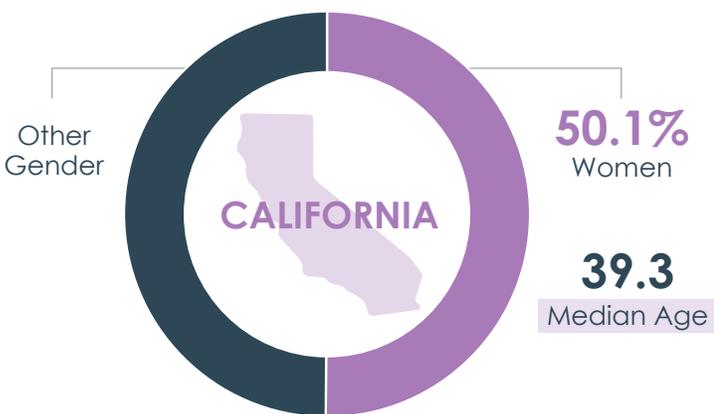
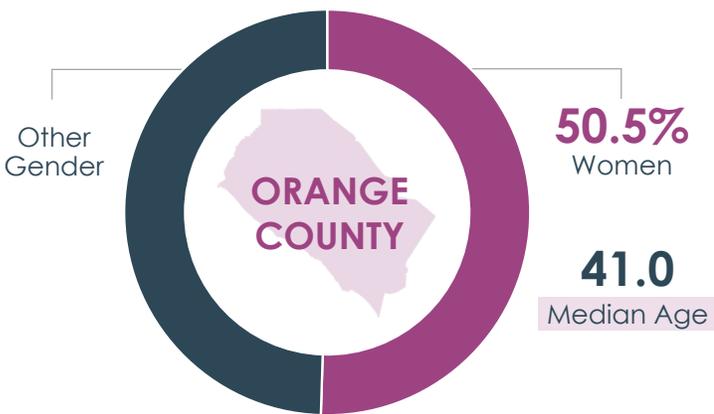
2. Ongoing Advisory Support

Provide ongoing advisory support to the Board by presenting regular reports and updates on the progress and outcomes of initiatives undertaken by the Commission.



Women At-A-Glance

OC women, those 18 years old and older, are similar, in many respects, to the overall population of women in CA.



Ethnicity

White, not Hispanic or Latino



Hispanic or Latino

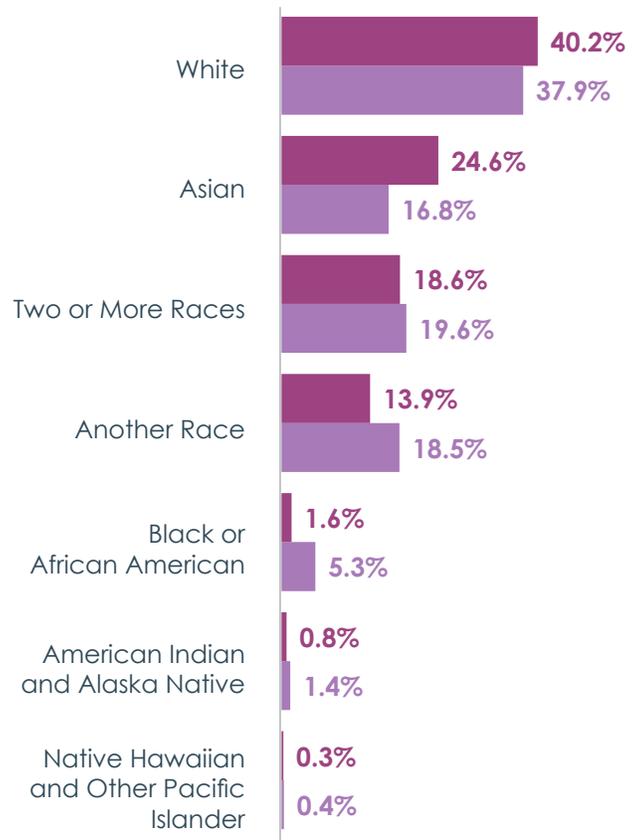


Fewer women identify as Hispanic or Latino in OC compared to CA.

Race

The percent of self-identified Asian and White women in OC exceeds that of women in CA.

■ Orange County ■ California

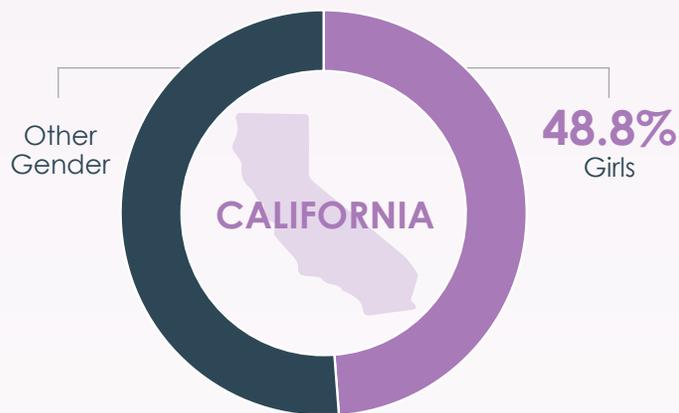
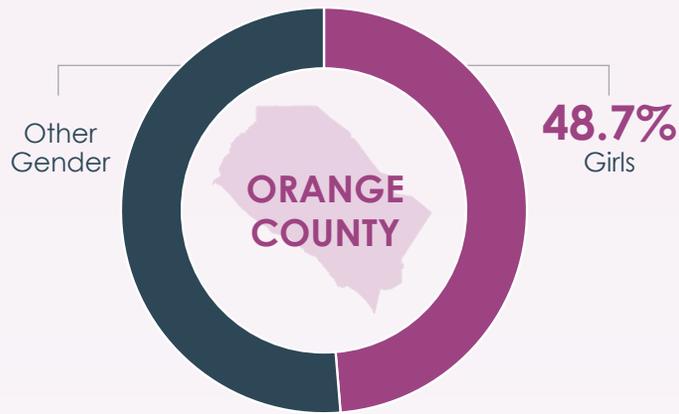


Source: U.S. Census 2024 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimate.



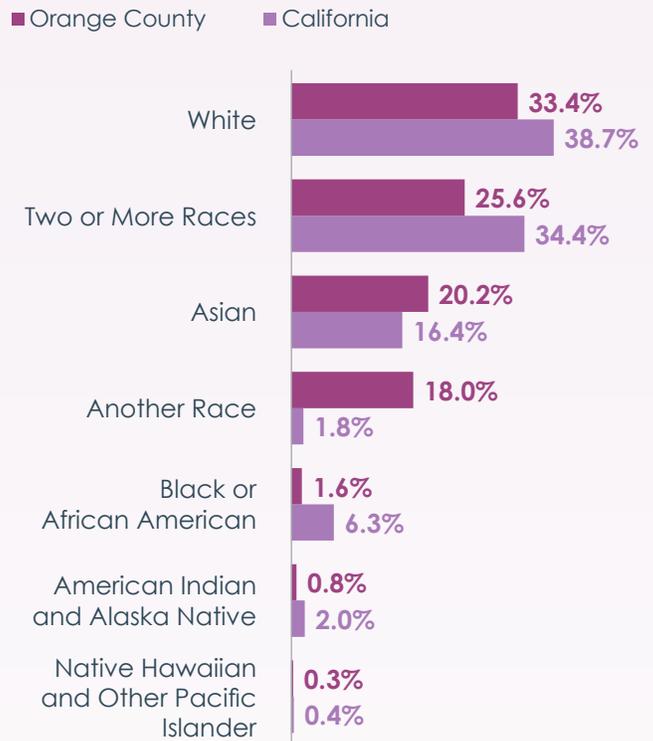
Girls At-A-Glance

OC girls, those under 18 years old, are closely representative of the overall population of girls in CA.



Race

While White girls make up the largest group overall, the percentage of Asian girls is higher in OC than in CA. By comparison, most other racial groups are more represented at the state level than in OC.



Ethnicity

White, not Hispanic or Latino



Hispanic or Latino



Fewer girls identify as Hispanic or Latino in OC compared to CA.

Source: U.S. Census 2024 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimate.

Data At-A-Glance

County Rankings from the Women’s Well-Being Index

The Women’s Well-Being Index was developed by the CA Budget and Policy Center in collaboration with the CA Commission on the Status of Women and Girls. The index is composed of a score, using multiple data sources in different categories to rank CA counties. There are five categories which reveal areas where women face gaps — health, personal safety, employment & earnings, economic security, and political empowerment, which each category has standardized items used, and the five category scores are combined to produce an overall county ranking which ranks the County with 1 being the best ranking out of 58 CA counties. The index highlights ongoing disparities, and provides a ranking among 58 CA counties. Although this index currently uses a binary view of gender, it also recognizes that more inclusive data is needed to better reflect the experiences of gender-diverse people. For more details on the Women’s Well-Being Index please refer to the following link:

<https://calbudgetcenter.org/resources/womens-well-being-index>.

WOMEN’S WELL-BEING INDEX CATEGORY



**COUNTY
RANKING**
OUT OF 58

WOMEN’S WELL-BEING INDEX CATEGORY	69.5		5
Health			
Health Status <i>Percentage of Women in Fair or Poor Health, 2018-22</i>	14.9%	18.1%	9
Health Care Coverage <i>Percentage of Women without Health Insurance, 2018-22</i>	8.5%	8.6%	40
Delayed Medical Care <i>Percentage of Women Who Either Delayed Getting or Did Not Get Prescriptions or Medical Care in the Past 12 Months, 2018-22</i>	22.1%	25.7%	5
Prenatal Care <i>Percentage of Women Receiving Adequate Prenatal Care, 2020-22</i>	82.2%	73.4%	6
Mental Health Status <i>Percentage of Women Who Likely Have Experienced Serious Psychological Distress in the Past Year, 2018-22</i>	14.9%	16%	16
Life Expectancy <i>Life Expectancy at Birth for Females, 2019</i>	85.1	83.8	7
Safety	85.5		8
Neighborhood Safety <i>Percentage of Women Who Feel Safe in Their Neighborhood All or Most of the Time, 2018-2022</i>	88.5%	86.2%	29
Fatal Accidents <i>Average Annual Fatal Accidents Per 100,000 Females, 2018-22</i>	23	29	6
Hospital Visits Due to Assault <i>Average Annual Hospital Encounters Due to Assault Per 100,000 Females, 2018-2022</i>	94	187	1
Domestic Violence <i>Average Annual Domestic Violence Calls for Assistance Per 100,000 Females, 2018-22</i>	640	830	11
Sexual Assault <i>Average Annual Sexual Assaults Per 100,000 Females, 2018-22</i>	54	74	9
Suicide Rate <i>Average Annual Number of Deaths Due to Suicide Per 100,000 Females, 2018-22</i>	6	6	23

WOMEN'S WELL-BEING INDEX
CATEGORY



COUNTY RANKING
OUT OF 58

Employment & Earnings	49.8		22
Unemployment <i>Female Unemployment Rate, 2018-22</i>	5.7%	6.6%	21
Labor Force Participation <i>Female Labor Force Participation Rate, 2018-22</i>	73.8%	72.1%	15
Low-Wage Workers <i>Percentage of Women Paid Low Wages, 2018-22</i>	40%	36.8%	49
Managerial & Professional Occupations <i>Percentage of Women Working in Managerial and Professional Occupations, 2018-22</i>	46.9%	44.9%	15
Earnings <i>Median Earnings for Women Employed Full-Time, Year-Round in Past 12 Months, 2018-22</i>	\$62,700	\$58,000	12
Wage Gap <i>Ratio of Women's to Men's Median Annual Earnings, 2018-22</i>	0.81	0.86	39
Economic Security	58.6		11
Poverty <i>Percentage of Women Living in Poverty, 2018-22</i>	10.3%	12.4%	13
Food Hardship <i>Percentage of Low- and Moderate-Income Women Who Aren't Able to Afford Enough Food, 2018-22</i>	33.5%	40.3%	5
Cost of Housing <i>Median Gross Rent as a Percentage of Women's Median Annual Earnings, 2018-22</i>	43.0%	38.4%	54
Cost of Child Care <i>Annual Cost of Child Care for an Infant and a School-Age Child as a Percentage of Single Mothers' Median Income</i>	53.7%	60.5%	24
Digital Equity <i>Percentage of Women with Access to the Internet and a Computing Device, 2018-22</i>	80.3%	75.3%	8
Bachelor's Degree <i>Percentage of Women With at Least a Bachelor's Degree, 2018-22</i>	42.2%	36.4%	9
Political Empowerment	45.2		29
Voter Registration <i>Percentage of Women Registered to Vote, 2022</i>	76%	76.1%	32
Voter Turnout <i>Percentage of Women Who Voted in the 2022 General Election</i>	48.3%	44.7%	30
School Board Membership <i>Percentage of School Board Members in the County Who Are Women, 2022-23</i>	60%	47.8%	7
City Council Membership <i>Percentage of City Council Members for Incorporated Cities in the County Who Are Women, 2024</i>	34.6%	34.9%	30
County-Level Leadership <i>Percentage of County Supervisors Who Are Women, 2023</i>	20%	30.7%	46
State Legislature <i>Percentage of State Legislators for the County Who Are Women, 2023</i>	50%	41.7%	34



Economic Equity & Financial Security

Unemployment Rates —●— California —●— Orange County

Unemployment rates for OC women are lower than CA women.



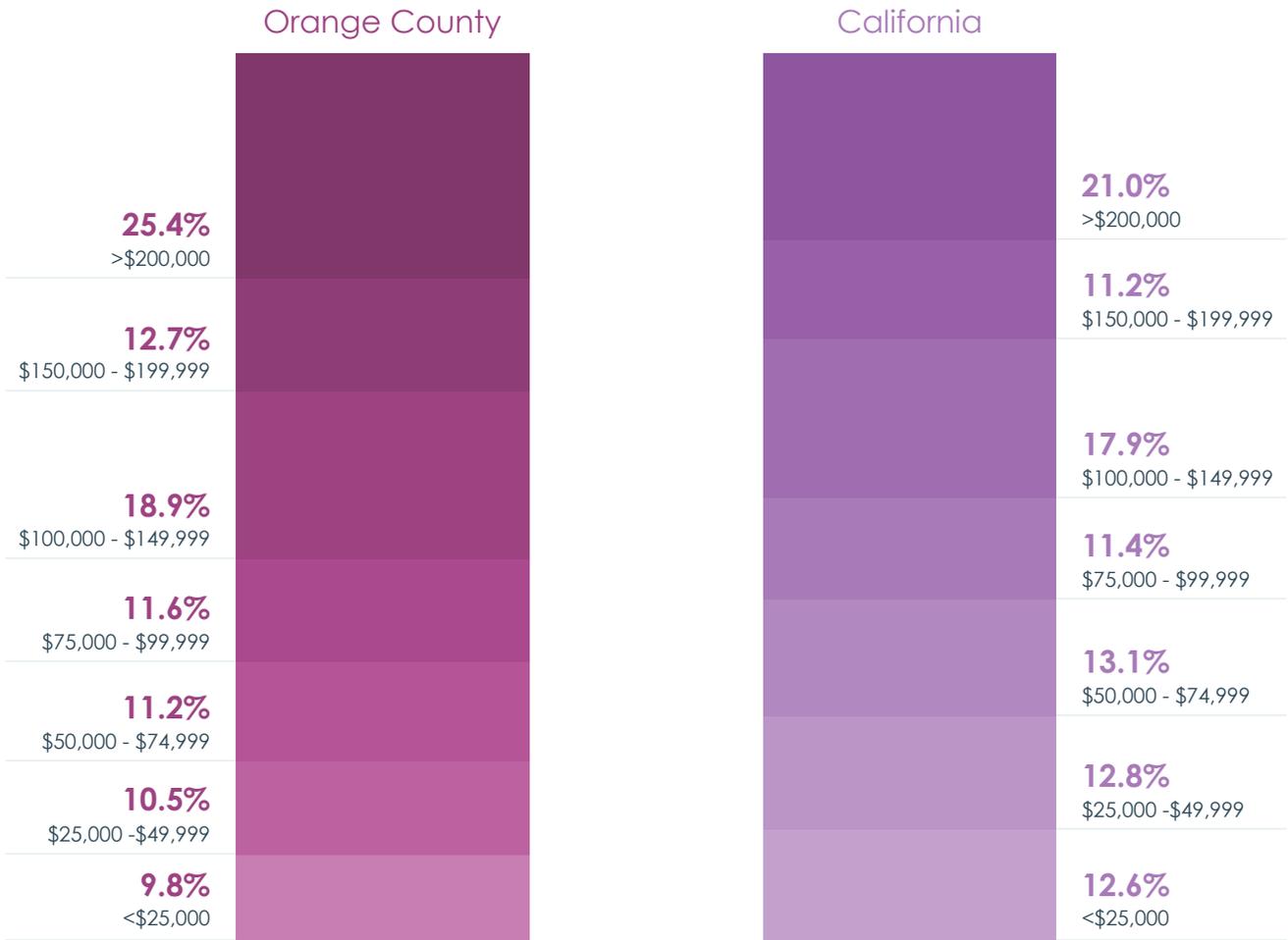
Women's Well-Being Index

According to the Women's Well-Being Index, OC ranked poorly, 49 out of 58 for women paid low wages. Between 2018 and 2022, there were 40% of women paid low wages which was defined as those who make two-thirds of the hourly median wage of the population employed full-time in OC.

Source: U.S. Census 2024 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimate.

Household Income

The proportion of households in OC (57.0%) with an income of over \$100,000 is greater than in CA (50.1%).



Earnings



Wage Gap Median Wage Comparisons

OC women make \$3,492 more than CA women. However, there is a larger gender gap for earnings in OC compared to CA.

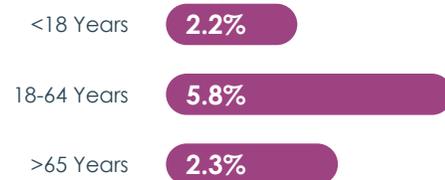
Source: U.S. Census 2024 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimate.

Poverty Based on Income Thresholds

There are fewer OC women in poverty compared to CA.



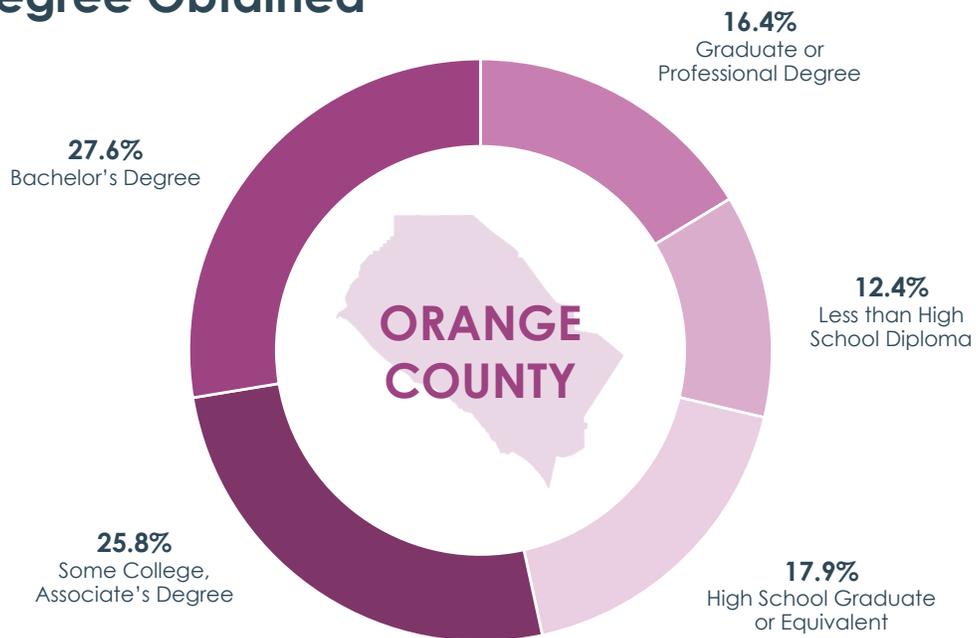
OC Poverty Breakdown





Education

Highest Degree Obtained



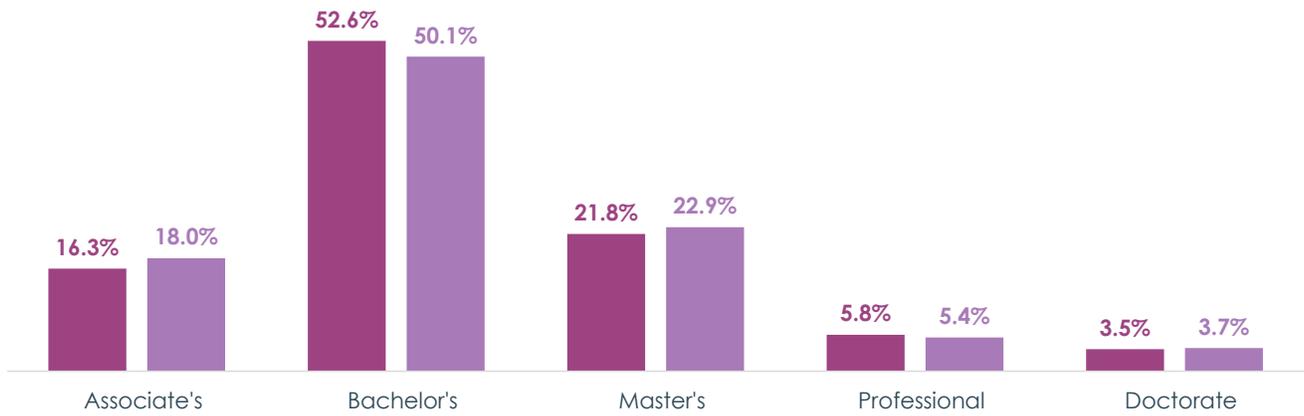
More OC women, 44%, have at least a Bachelor's Degree compared to CA which is 39.1%.

Source: U.S. Census 2024 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimate.

Postsecondary Degree

Associate's Degree and Above

Orange County California



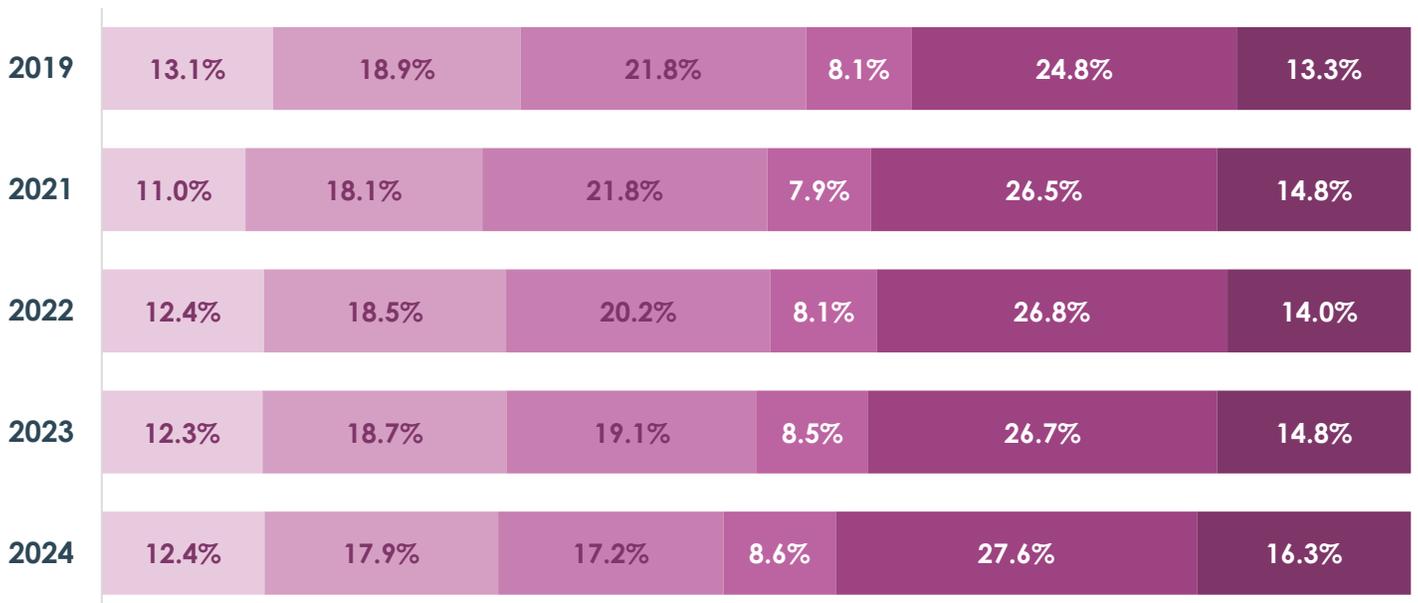
OC women who identify as Black or African American reported a lower percentage of postsecondary degrees compared to CA.



Highest Degree Obtained by Year

Over the past 5 years, OC women with high school, some college, no degree steadily decreased. Women with a Bachelor's and Graduate or Professional degree gradually increased.

■ Less than high school
 ■ High school graduate
 ■ Some college, no degree
■ Associate's degree
 ■ Bachelor's degree
 ■ Graduate or professional degree



Source: U.S. Census 2024 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimate.

Girls Education

CAASPP Test Results

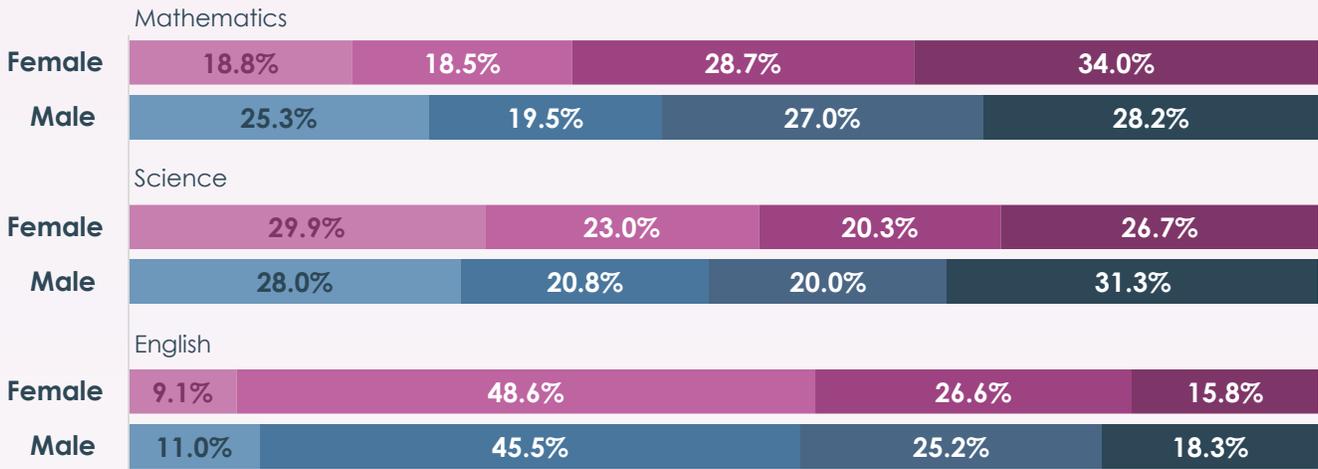
Not Met

Nearly Met

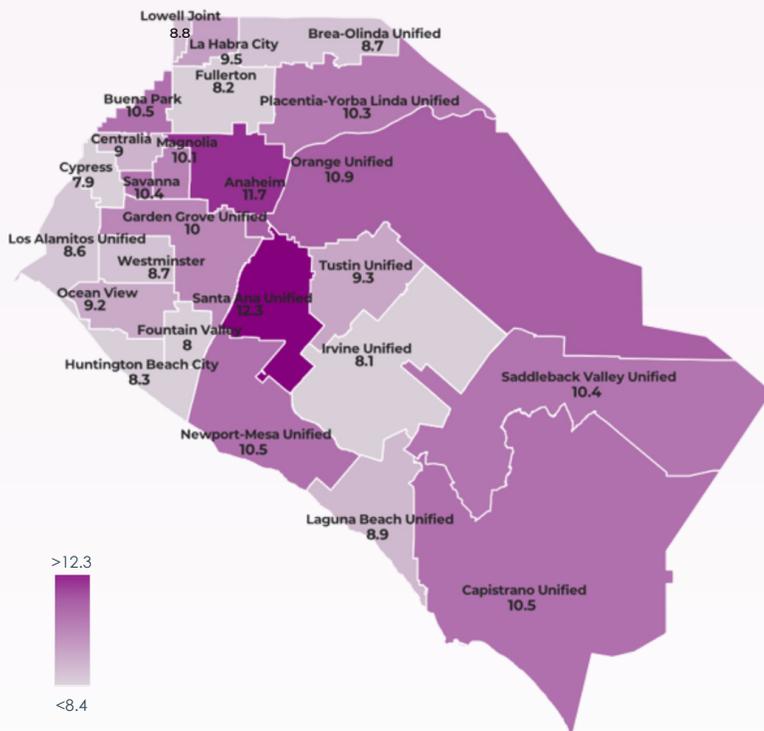
Standard Met

Standard Exceeded

A statewide testing system that measures student achievement in core subjects like English language arts, mathematics and science. Results provide insight into how well students are meeting grade-level learning standards. Test results are for students in grades 3-11 in OC.



Note: Data reflects school year 2024-25 | Source: California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress



Absenteeism by District

The absenteeism rates represent the average days absent by all students within the district for those in Kindergarten through 12th grade if relevant within the district.

Girl Rates Above Overall Student Rates

School District	Average Days	(+)
Fullerton Joint Union High	11.3	+0.6
Huntington Beach Union High	12.6	+0.4
Tustin Unified	9.3	+0.2
Los Alamitos Unified	8.6	+0.1
Orange Unified	10.9	+0.1
Saddleback Valley Unified	10.4	+0.1
Savanna	10.4	+0.1

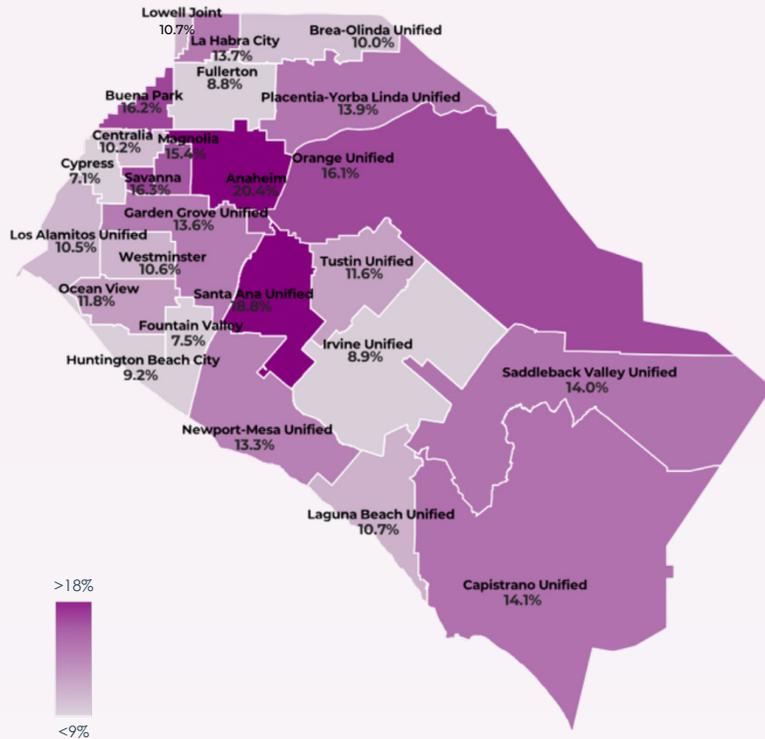
Note: (+) indicates number above overall average days.

Note: Anaheim Union High, Huntington Beach Union High and Fullerton Joint Union High are not present on the map above. | Data reflects school year 2024-25.

Source: California Department of Education, 2024 data retrieved through DataQuest.

Chronic Absenteeism

Chronic absenteeism school year rates are the percentage of students that have been absent for 10% of school days or more. Students in kindergarten through 12th grade are included in the rates.



Note: Anaheim Union High, Huntington Beach Union High and Fullerton Joint Union High are not present on the map above. | Data reflects school year 2024-25

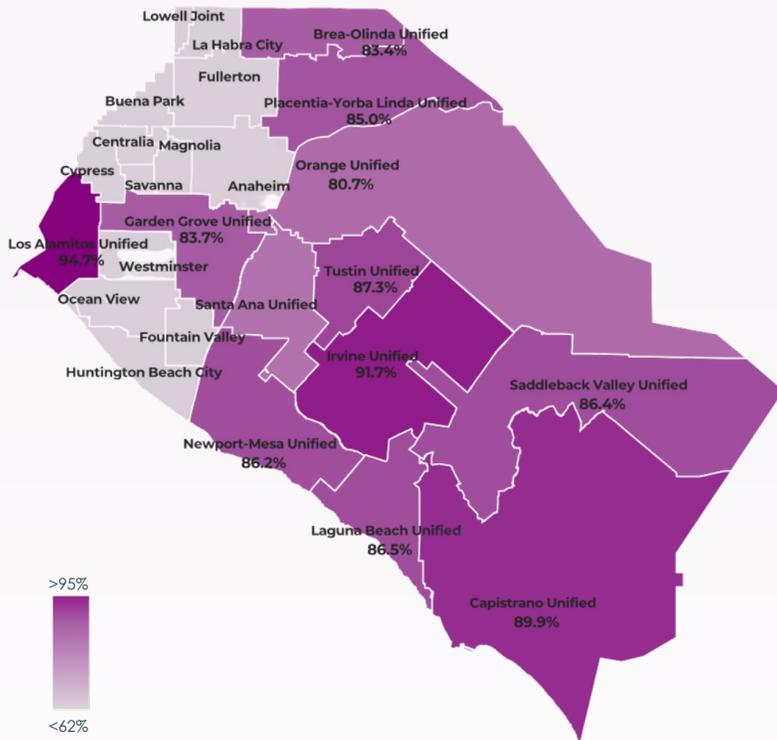
Girl Rates Above Overall Rates

School District	Rate	(+)
Huntington Beach Union High	19.1%	1.4%
Fullerton Joint Union High	17.0%	1.3%
Tustin Unified	11.6%	0.8%
Anaheim Union High	24.8%	0.5%
Orange Unified	16.1%	0.4%
Saddleback Valley Unified	14.0%	0.4%
Los Alamitos Unified	10.5%	0.4%
Placentia-Yorba Linda Unified	13.9%	0.3%
Santa Ana Unified	18.8%	0.2%
Garden Grove Unified	13.6%	0.1%
Laguna Beach Unified	10.7%	0.1%

Note: (+) indicates percentage above overall rate.

College Enrollment Rate

These rates represent the percent of girls who completed high school and enrolled in a postsecondary institution of higher education (e.g., college or university) within 16 months.



Note: Anaheim Union High, Huntington Beach Union High and Fullerton Joint Union High are not present on the map above. | Data reflects school year 2022-23 graduates | Source: California Department of Education, 2024 data retrieved through DataQuest.

Girl Rates Above Overall Rates

School District	Rate	(+)
Los Alamitos Unified	94.7%	+3.6%
Irvine Unified	91.7%	+1.8%
Capistrano Unified	89.9%	+3.9%
Tustin Unified	87.3%	+3.4%
Huntington Beach Union High	86.5%	+2.9%
Saddleback Valley Unified	86.4%	+3.8%
Newport-Mesa Unified	86.2%	+3.7%
Placentia-Yorba Linda Unified	85.0%	+3.3%
Fullerton Joint Union High	84.5%	+3.8%
Garden Grove Unified	83.7%	+4.2%
Brea-Olinda Unified	83.4%	+4.4%
Orange Unified	80.7%	+4.5%
Santa Ana Unified	79.5%	+5.6%
Anaheim Union High	76.9%	+4.3%

Note: (+) indicates percentage above overall rate.

Leadership & Representation

Political Empowerment

Women's Well-Being Index

Of the five main categories surveyed by the CA Women's Well-Being Index, OC received its lowest score in the political empowerment category (29 out of 58 counties). Four items within this category are displayed below.



County-Level Leadership (Ranked 46 out of 58)
During 2023, 20% of OC BOS were women. In 2024, that figure increased to 40%.



State Legislature (Ranked 34 out of 58)
During 2023, 50% of OC's State Legislators were women. In 2025, that figure was 47%.



Voter Registration (Ranked 32 out of 58)
During 2022, 76% of OC eligible women were registered to vote.

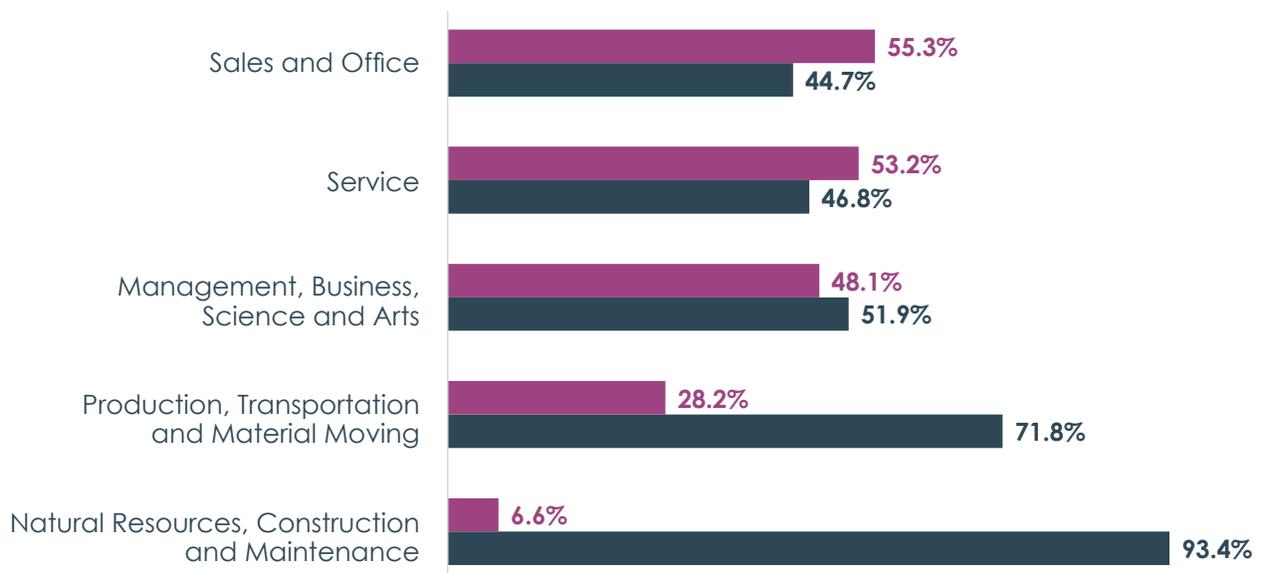


School Board Membership (Ranked 7 out of 58)
During the 2022-23 survey period, 60% of OC School Board members were women.



Occupation ■ Female ■ Male

Similar to CA, in OC there are more female workers in sales and office occupations and service occupations.



Source: U.S. Census 2024 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimate.



Housing & Households

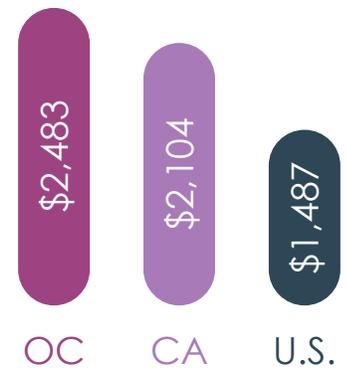
Types of Households

In OC, 30% of all households include children under 18 years old. Of all households, 11.5% are reported to be headed by women with 40.9% of those including children under 18 years old.



*Non-Family households headed by women refers to women living alone or with unrelated individuals. Whereas, family households headed by women refers to women making decisions for her relatives (kids, spouse, etc.)

Rental Costs



Median rent in OC is 18% higher than CA and is 67% higher than the U.S.

Selected Costs Associated with Housing

Households with rent 35% or greater of their gross income



Households with selected costs of ownership 35% or greater of gross incomes (homes with a mortgage)



Houses with a mortgage



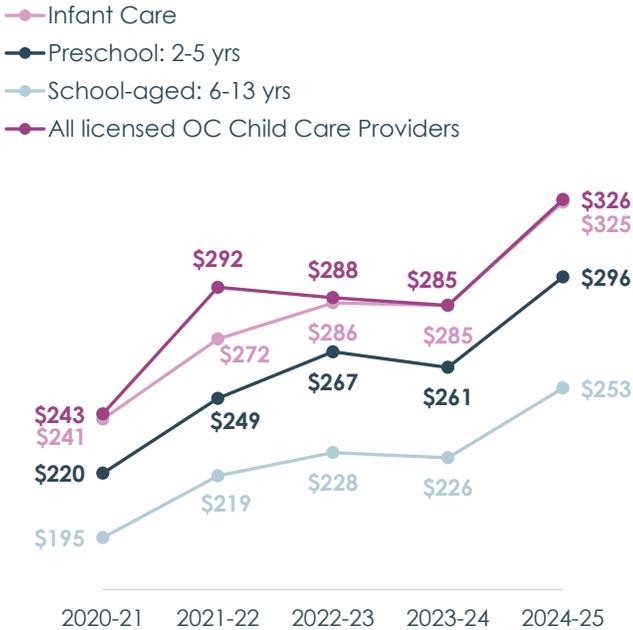
The rate of households spending 35% or more of their gross income is 1.2 higher in OC compared to CA. For all selected costs associated with housing, OC and CA rates exceed the U.S.

Source: U.S. Census 2024 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimate.

Licensed Childcare

Family Childcare Homes

The average weekly cost in OC.



Childcare Centers



Yearly Cost Estimate

The yearly cost estimate is based on 2024-25 in OC.

Licensed Family Childcare Homes		Yearly Cost Estimate
Infant Care		\$16,900
Preschool: 2-5 yrs		\$15,392
School-aged: 6-13 yrs		\$13,156
Licensed Childcare Centers		
Infant Care		\$24,284
Preschool: 2-5 yrs		\$17,056
School-aged: 6-13 yrs		\$14,924
All OC Child Care Providers		\$16,952

2024 Median Female Income

Yearly cost for a woman making median income without additional support, would be 24.4% of their income.*



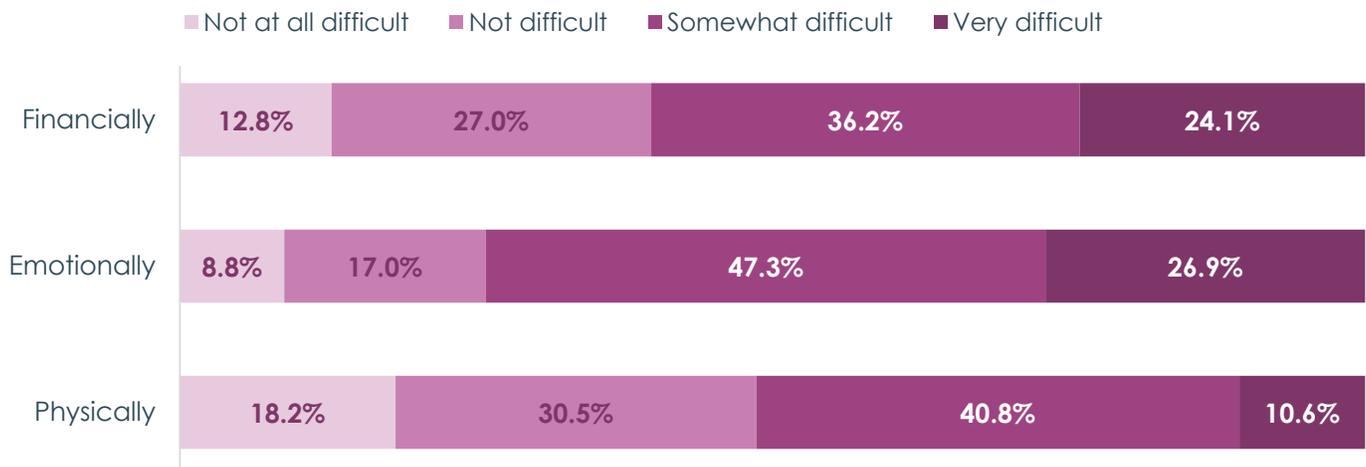
*All OC Child Care Providers yearly cost from the table above used in the calculation.

Source: 2025 Orange County Conditions of Children's Report. Originally sourced from: Children's Home Society of California's Child Care Resources and Referral Program | Source: U.S. Census 2024 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimate.

Dependent Care

Types of Caregiver Difficulties

Among women caregivers, emotional challenges are reported most frequently, followed by financial and physical challenges. Although the degree of difficulty varies across categories, one in four caregivers identify emotional and/or financial aspects of caregiving as very difficult.



Caregiving

The percentage of participants who were 55+ and reported caregiving for someone who was also 55+ within the past 12 months.

28%



Men

36%



Women

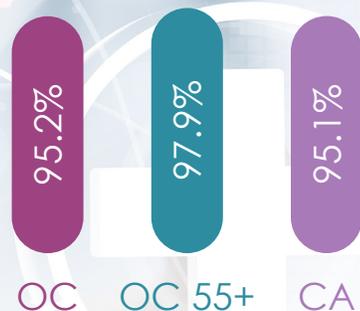
There are more female caregivers in OC.

Source: OC 2023 Older Adults Needs Assessment Survey

Healthcare

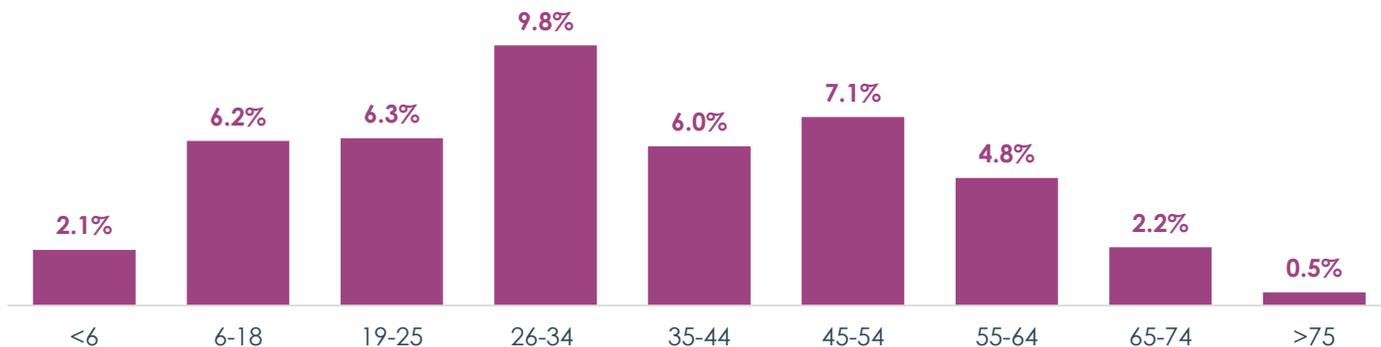
Women Covered by Health Insurance

OC women have approximately the same rates of health insurance coverage compared to CA. OC women aged 55+ reported having a higher rate of insurance coverage (97.9%). Overall, OC women aged 55+ reported having higher rates of insurance coverage across all race/ethnicity groups. Health insurance coverage rates for OC women are comparable to that of CA, except that those who identify as two or more races have slightly lower rates of insurance.



Uninsured by Age

Almost one in ten OC women between 26-34 years do not have health insurance.



Health Insurance Coverage by Race



Race	OC	OC 55+	CA
White	98.2%	96.5%	96.4%
Black or African American	97.7%	97.0%	95.0%
Asian	97.7%	96.4%	96.6%
Another Race	91.7%	88.8%	88.9%
Two or More Races	93.4%	91.2%	92.5%

Source: U.S. Census 2024 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimate.

Discrimination

Employment Civil Rights Cases

In CA, approximately 57% of complainants in employment civil rights cases were women, according to the voluntary demographic data provided in The California Civil Rights Department (CRD) 2024 Annual Report. The report highlights research on pay equity and cites, **“California annually collects and analyzes pay and demographic data from large California employers. The program encourages employers to conduct self-assessments of pay disparities, promotes voluntary compliance with equal pay and anti-discrimination laws, and supports CRD’s efforts to efficiently identify wage patterns and allow for effective enforcement of anti-discrimination laws in the workplace.”**

Note: Although CA CRD tracks certain discrimination data pertaining to women (i.e., pregnancy workplace complaints) this specific information was not available for OC women. | Source: CRD 2024 Annual Report covering the 2023 calendar year and published in 2024 Appendix D, Table 4.

Older Adult Self-Reported Discrimination in OC

Based on a 2023 survey administered to OC older adults, more women 55+ reported having experienced discrimination against their age than men.

Women 55+	Men 55+
51% Age	45% Age
33% Race/Ethnicity	42% Race/Ethnicity
22% Language	25% Language

Source: OC 2023 Older Adults Needs Assessment Survey

Mental Health

Psychological Distress & Suicide

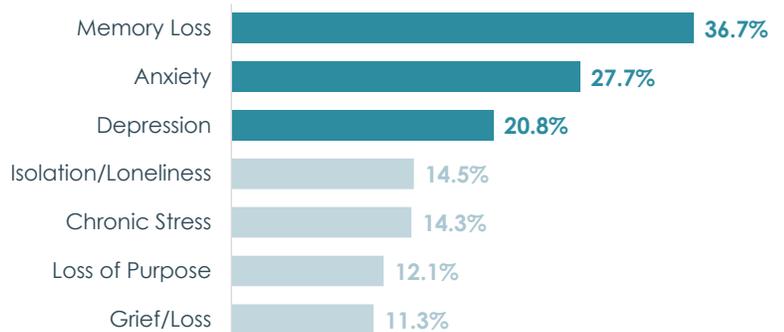
The CA Health Interview Survey asks women about the following mental health issues. Percentages below represent OC women’s responses to the survey over the past five years.

— Likely has Serious Psychological Distress within the Past Year — Has Ever Seriously Thought about Committing Suicide



Top Mental or Behavioral Health Concerns

Memory loss, anxiety and depression are the top three mental and behavioral health concerns for women 55+ in OC.



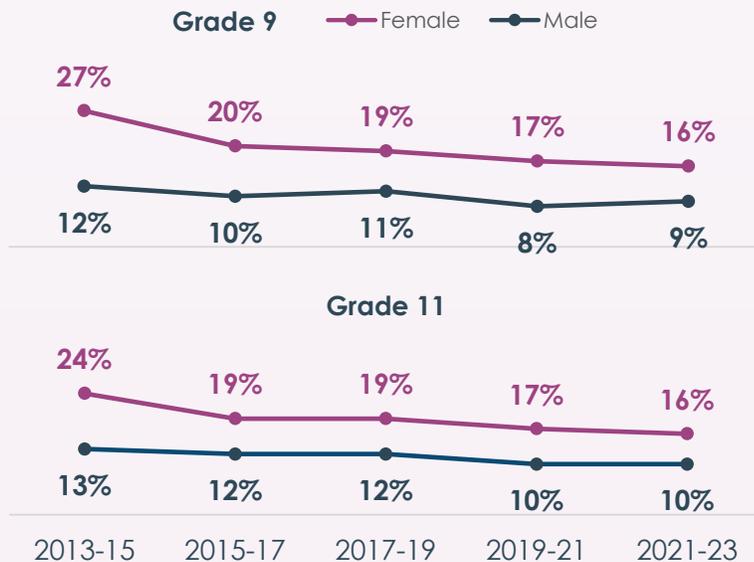
*Note: Participants were asked to select their top three. Trauma, Another, Alcoholism/Substance Use, Suicide or Thoughts of Suicide and Self-Harm concerns were all under 3% | Source: OC 2023 Older Adults Needs Assessment Survey



Girls Mental Health

Suicide Trends Over Time

Students were asked whether they had seriously considered attempting suicide within the past 12 months, with response options of "Yes" or "No." Female students consistently report higher rates of suicidal thoughts compared to male students in OC. However, there has been a gradual decrease in rates of suicidal thoughts for both groups over time.



Chronic Sadness/Hopelessness | Past 12 Months

As part of the assessment, students were asked if they had experienced feeling so sad or hopeless almost every day for two weeks or more that it interfered with their usual activities, responding either "Yes" or "No." Female students appear to report experiencing slightly higher rates of chronic sadness and hopelessness compared to male students. Overall, the percentage of students reporting these feelings has remained relatively stable over the years.



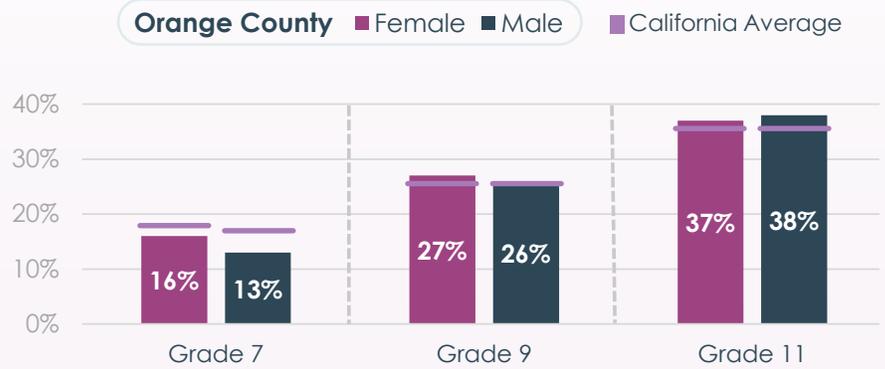
Note: Years are reflective of school years.

Source: 2021-2023 California Healthy Kids Survey/OC District results.

Girls Health

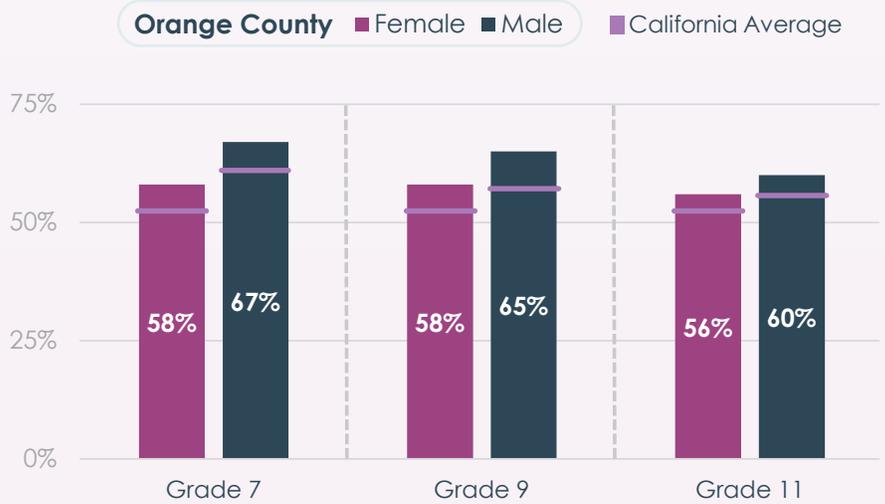
Bedtime After 12 AM

Across grade levels in OC, female and male students tend to have similar rates of going to bed after 12 AM. However, as grade level increases, the percentage of those going to bed after 12 am increases.



Eating Breakfast

In OC, both female and male students show a slight decrease in the percentage of students eating breakfast as grade level increases. Across all grades, male students consistently report higher rates of eating breakfast compared to female students.



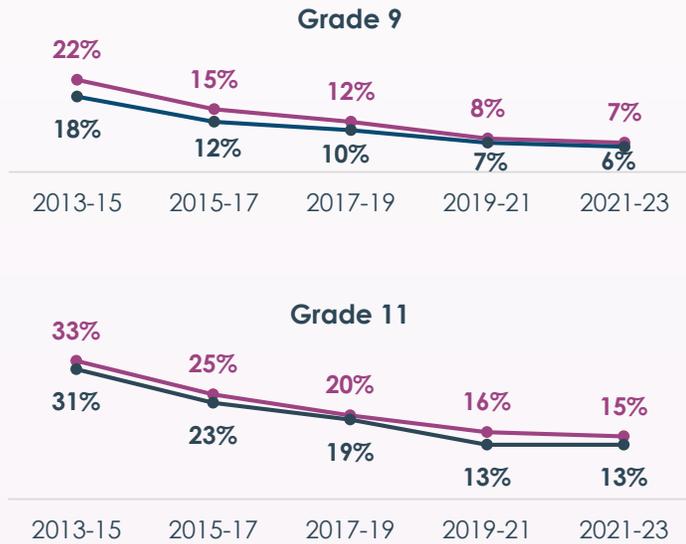
Source: 2021-2023 California Healthy Kids Survey/ OC District results.



Girls Health

Alcohol & Other Drug Use ● Female ● Male

Current alcohol and other drug (AOD) use refers to consumption of substances such as alcohol, tobacco or illicit drugs within the past 30 days. Over time, both female and male students show a noticeable decrease in AOD use. Female and male students are similar with slightly more use amongst females.



Survey Question

“During the past 30 days, on how many days did you use...”

- One or more drinks of alcohol?
- Five or more drinks of alcohol in a row, that is, within a couple of hours?
- Marijuana (smoke, vape, eat or drink)?
- Inhalants (things you sniff, huff or breathe to get "high")?
- Prescription drugs to get "high" or for reasons other than prescribed?
- Any other drug, pill or medicine to get "high" or for reasons other than medical?

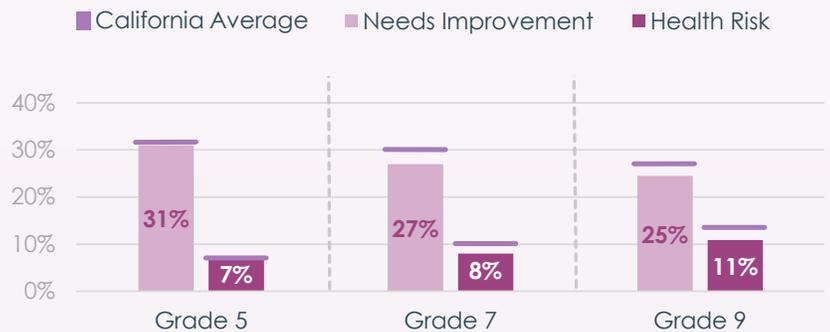
Students selected their answer from the following options: 0 days, 1 day, 2 days, 3–9 days, 10–19 days, or 20–30 days.

Note: Years are reflective of school years.

Source: 2021-2023 California Healthy Kids Survey/OC District results.

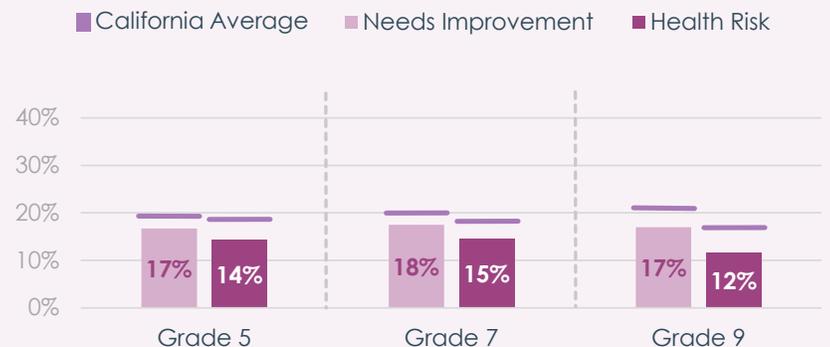
Aerobic Capacity

Aerobic capacity measures how well the body uses oxygen during physical activity, reflecting overall cardiovascular fitness. OC female students perform better than the CA average in aerobic capacity across Grades 5, 7 and 9.



Body Composition

Body composition refers to the proportion of fat and non-fat mass in the body. Similar to aerobic capacity, OC female students perform better than the CA average in body composition, with a similar percentage of students needing improvement or at health risk across grade levels.

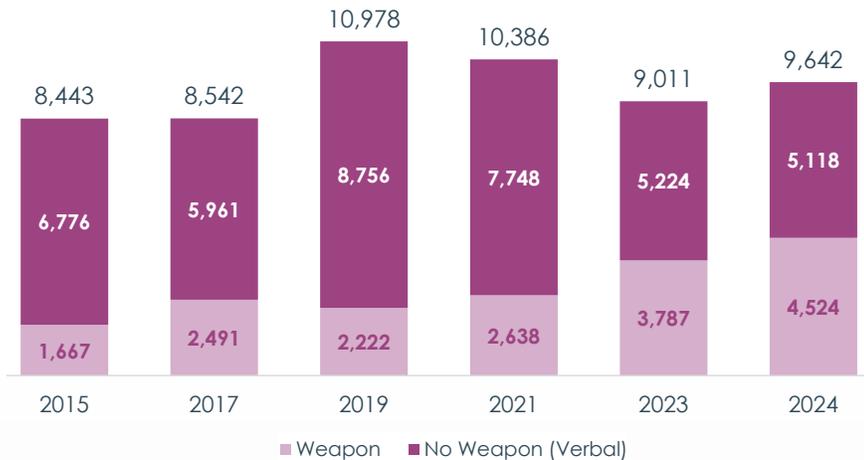


Source: California Department of Education, 2024 data retrieved through DataQuest.

Violence & Domestic Abuse

Domestic Violence Crimes

Domestic abuse involving weapons has generally increased over time in OC with some fluctuations and approximately 80% of weapons being a personal weapon (e.g., hands, feet).



Unhoused Victims of Domestic Violence

The percentages below are based on the biennial OC Point in Time Summary of unhoused, homeless and sheltered women.



7.8% 2019 | 9.0% 2022 | 9.2% 2024

Juvenile Arrests

A juvenile arrest happens when someone under 18 is taken into custody for breaking the law. These arrests are grouped into categories like violent crimes, property crimes, drug offenses and others. Across all categories, the number of arrests involving females are much lower than males, suggesting that females are involved in fewer serious offenses overall. When involved in crime, females are more likely to engage in violent crime compared to other offense categories.



Other

Arrests for all other felonies like DUI, hit-and-run, weapons violations, escape, gambling (bookmaking) and miscellaneous offenses.

Violent

Arrests for serious violent crimes such as homicide, rape, robbery, assault and kidnapping.

Property

Arrests related to property crimes like burglary, theft, car theft, fraud (including checks and access cards) and arson.

Sexual

Arrests for sexual offenses including lewd acts, unlawful sexual intercourse and other violations of sex laws.

Drug

Arrests involving narcotics, marijuana, dangerous drugs and other felony drug-related offenses.

Source: CA Department of Justice - Criminal Justice Statistics Center data reported by all OC local law enforcement agencies.

Orange County Commission on the Status of Women & Girls

Conclusion

This inaugural report provides a countywide baseline of how women and girls in OC are faring. Economic disparity is not a standalone issue; it is a barrier that affects many aspects of life for women and girls in OC. It shapes access to education and career pathways, limits housing and financial stability, drives health and mental health inequities, and exposes gaps in policy and legal protections.

As the OC Commission on the Status of Women and Girls examines education and workforce development, housing and financial security, healthcare and mental health, and public policy and legal protections, economic disparity emerges as a contributing factor.

As an advisory body to the BOS, the Commission will continue to use these insights to suggest recommendations that strengthen long-term resilience for women, girls, and the broader community. This information also enhances the Commission's value to stakeholders by grounding discussions in current conditions and emerging needs, and it has the potential to inform future reports that track progress and highlight priority areas.

This report provides a snapshot into how women and girls are faring in OC and highlights how economic disparity and gaps in access to critical resources can limit opportunity. Economic stability is a foundation for overall well-being. By advancing solutions that strengthen economic stability for women and girls, OC can build a more resilient future for women, families, and ultimately, the broader community.

Next Steps

To address economic challenges, the Commission's next steps for 2026-27 intend to focus on analysis of targeted, practical strategies that strengthen economic security and expand opportunity for women and girls. A future report will take a closer look at childcare affordability and access, as contributors of economic disparity. The Commission will develop a strategic advisory plan to examine the impact of childcare costs and limited availability on workforce participation, household stability and long-term financial security. By addressing this issue directly, the Commission can offer actionable recommendations to reduce economic strain and strengthen stability for women and families across the county. By centering these priorities in the 2026-27 commission strategic advisory plan, the Commission can support the BOS in advancing practical, data-driven solutions that reduce economic disparity and expand opportunity for women, families, and the broader OC community.



Data Sources

Women

American Community Survey (ACS)

The 2023 American Census Survey 1-Year and 5-Year Estimate Data Profiles for women are used within this report. The ACS, conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau, collects detailed demographic, social, economic, and housing data and projects annual estimates.

The California Women's Well-Being Index

The CA Women's Well-Being Index (WWBI) is a county-level, composite index that shows how women are faring throughout California. The WWBI consists of 30 indicators of women's well-being that are grouped into five dimensions: Health, Personal Safety, Employment and Earnings, Economic Security and Political Empowerment.

Criminal Justice Data

The CA Department of Justice publishes criminal justice data through its Criminal Justice Statistics Center (CJSC). The department collects information on crime and clearances reported by law enforcement agencies throughout the state. The data is used to understand CA's criminal justice system, hold it accountable and improve public policy to make the state safer.

Orange County Older Adults Community Survey

The OC Older Adults Community Survey (September 2023 - January 2024) collected input from older adults aged 55+ in OC through various modes (in-person, online, telephone, paper) and languages. Of the 5,657 responses, there were 3,471 female participants.

Point-In-Time (PIT) Count Summary

Annual survey of homeless people in the US conducted by local agencies called Continuums of Care on behalf of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

Conditions of Children Report

Social Services Agency, in collaboration with the Children and Families Commission, sponsors the production and distribution of an annual report on the conditions of children in OC. The report studies four interdependent focus areas: Good Health, Economic Well-Being, Educational Achievement, and Safe Homes and Communities.

California Health Interview Survey (CHIS) from University of California, Los Angeles

The nation's largest state health survey to provide a comprehensive picture of the health and healthcare needs of CA's diverse population.

Girls

DataQuest (California Department of Education)

The CA Department of Education's DataQuest platform provides access to a wide range of public education data for students, teachers, and schools across CA. This web-based tool offers reports and downloadable data on topics such as enrollment, test performance, graduation rates, and student group outcomes. The data used in this report reflect the most recently available updates as of October 2025.

California Healthy Kids Survey (CHKS)

CHKS is a statewide data collection effort led by the CA Department of Education. It gathers self-reported information from students in grades 5, 7, 9 and 11 on topics such as school climate, student mental health, substance use, and overall well-being. The CHKS is one of the most comprehensive sources for understanding youth experiences and challenges across CA schools.

California Assessment of Student Performance & Progress (CAASPP)

The CA Assessment of Student Performance and Progress system, administered by the CA Department of Education, measures student achievement in English Language Arts/Literacy, Mathematics and Science. The assessments are aligned with CA state standards and are designed to provide a comprehensive view of student learning, readiness for college and career, and academic progress across grade levels.

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Appendix

POPULATION¹

	ORANGE COUNTY	CALIFORNIA
WOMEN & GIRLS	1,601,560	19,756,160
TOTAL	3,170,435	39,431,263

¹U.S. Census 2024 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates. Table B01001: Sex by Age

OC WOMEN WHO GAVE BIRTH IN 2024²

AGE	NUMBER OF BIRTHS	SINGLE MOTHERS
15 - 19 years	318	100.0%
20 - 34 years	17,915	18.9%
35 - 50 years	13,836	15.3%
TOTAL	32,069	18.2%

²U.S. Census 2024 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates. Table B13002: Women 15 to 50 Years Who Had a Birth in the Past 12 Months by Marital Status and Age.

BIRTH BY RACE & ETHNICITY OF MOTHER⁴

	ORANGE COUNTY	CALIFORNIA
RACE		
White alone	39.5%	35.1%
Black or African American alone	2.2%	4.1%
American Indian and Alaska Native alone	0.3%	1.5%
Asian alone	23.1%	16.0%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone ⁵	0.3%	0.4%
Some Other Race alone	16.0%	23.2%
Two or more races	18.7%	19.7%
ETHNICITY		
White alone, not Hispanic or Latino	34.4%	28.4%
Hispanic or Latino	36.0%	47.0%
TOTAL NUMBER OF WOMEN GIVING BIRTH	32,116	430,508

Source: U.S. Census 2024 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimate. | ⁴U.S. Census 2024 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates Table B13002A, B, C, D, F, G, H, I Women 15-50 Years Who Had a Birth in the Past 12 Months by Marital Status. | ⁵U. S. Census 2024 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates Table B13002E Women 15-50 Years Who Had a Birth in the Past 12 Months by Marital Status.

BIRTHPLACE OF IMMIGRANT WOMEN & GIRLS LIVING IN OC³

Europe	5.3%
Asia	53.1%
Africa	2.0%
Oceania	0.6%
Latin America	38.0%
Northern America	1.0%

³U.S. Census 2024 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates. Table B05006: Place of Birth for the Foreign-Born Population in the United States

Economic Equity & Financial Security

OC: UNEMPLOYMENT RATES BY RACE, ETHNICITY & GENDER⁶

RACE	WOMEN	MEN	TOTAL
White alone	4.8%	4.2%	4.3%
Black or African American alone	5.0%	4.8%	5.3%
American Indian and Alaska Native alone	5.5%	3.8%	4.4%
Asian alone	4.3%	3.9%	4.0%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone ⁷	0.4%	1.0%	N/A
Some Other Race alone	3.5%	3.3%	3.5%
Two or more races	4.9%	4.9%	4.8%
ETHNICITY			
White alone, not Hispanic or Latino	4.5%	4.1%	4.3%
Hispanic or Latino	4.9%	4.0%	4.2%

Source: U.S. Census 2024 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimate. | ⁶U.S. Census 2024 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates Table B23001A, B, C, D, F, G, H, I: Sex by Age by Employment Status for the Population 16 Years and Over. | ⁷U.S. Census 2024 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates. Table B23001E.

THE GENDER WAGE GAP: MEDIAN EARNINGS BY GENDER⁸

	ORANGE COUNTY		CALIFORNIA		U.S.	
FULL-TIME, YEAR-ROUND EMPLOYED POPULATION	\$69,447 Women	\$80,059 Men	\$65,955 Women	\$74,837 Men	\$55,678 Women	\$66,965 Men
WAGE GAP FOR FULL-TIME, YEAR-ROUND WORKERS	86.7%		88.1%		83.1%	
EMPLOYED POPULATION <i>(Including seasonal/part-time work)</i>	\$48,982 Women	\$63,185 Men	\$46,790 Women	\$60,578 Men	\$42,498 Women	\$57,064 Men
WAGE GAP FOR ALL EMPLOYED	77.5%		77.2%		74.5%	

Source: U.S. Census 2024 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimate. | ⁸U.S. Census 2024 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates Table S2412: Occupation by Sex and Median Earnings in the Past 12 months for Full-Time, Year-Round Civilian Employed Population.

POVERTY RATES BY GENDER⁹

	ORANGE COUNTY	CALIFORNIA	U.S.
WOMEN	10.4%	12.6%	13.0%
MEN	8.7%	10.6%	10.7%
OVERALL	9.7%	11.8%	12.1%

Source: U.S. Census 2024 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimate. | ⁹U.S. Census 2024 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates Table S1701 Poverty Status in the Past 12 Months.

Economic Equity & Financial Security

OC POVERTY RATES BY RACE & ETHNICITY¹⁰

WOMEN/GIRLS BELOW FEDERAL POVERTY LEVEL

RACE	
White alone	4.0%
Black or African American alone	7.5%
American Indian and Alaska Native alone	8.0%
Asian alone	5.5%
Some Other Race alone	8.3%
Two or more races	5.4%
ETHNICITY	
White alone, not Hispanic or Latino	3.9%
Hispanic or Latino	6.9%

Source: U.S. Census 2024 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimate. | ¹⁰U.S. Census 2024 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates. Table B17001A, B, D, F, G, H, I Poverty Status in the Past 12 Months by Sex by Age.

POVERTY RATES BY HOUSEHOLD TYPE¹¹

	ORANGE COUNTY	CALIFORNIA	U.S.
ALL FAMILIES	6.9%	8.5%	8.5%
MARRIED COUPLE FAMILIES	3.4%	3.7%	3.3%
With Children Under 18 Years	1.9%	1.9%	1.6%
SINGLE-MOTHER FAMILIES	2.5%	3.7%	4.2%
With Children Under 18 Years	1.9%	2.9%	3.4%

Source: U.S. Census 2024 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimate. | ¹¹U.S. Census 2024 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates. Table S1702 Poverty Status in the Past 12 Months of families.

OC POVERTY RATES BY AGE & GENDER¹²

AGE GROUP	FEMALES	MALES
< 18 YEARS	2.2%	2.3%
< 5 Years	0.5%	0.6%
18 - 64 YEARS	5.8%	5.1%
>65 YEARS	2.3%	1.2%
>75 Years	1.3%	0.5%

Source: U.S. Census 2024 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimate. | ¹²U.S. Census 2024 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates. Table B17001 Poverty Status in the Past 12 Months by Sex by Age.

POSTSECONDARY DEGREE BY GENDER¹³

DEGREE TYPE	DEGREES HELD BY WOMEN IN OC	DEGREES HELD BY MEN IN OC	DEGREES HELD BY WOMEN IN CA	DEGREES HELD BY MEN IN CA
Associate's Degree	58.7%	41.3%	56.1%	43.9%
Bachelor's Degree	50.1%	49.9%	52.1%	47.9%
Master's Degree	52.8%	47.2%	54.1%	45.9%
Professional Degree	46.2%	53.8%	49.3%	50.7%
Doctorate Degree	44.4%	55.6%	44.0%	56.0%

Source: U.S. Census 2024 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimate. | ¹³U.S. Census 2024 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates Table B15002: Sex by Educational Attainment for the Population 25 Years and Over.

OC WOMEN: HIGHEST DEGREE ATTAINED BY AGE¹⁴

AGE GROUP	18 - 24	25 - 34	35 - 44	45 - 64	65+
Less than 9th Grade	0.8%	2.1%	4.8%	8.7%	9.6%
9th - 12th Grade No Diploma	4.2%	2.0%	6.3%	6.5%	6.0%
High School Graduate or Equivalent	32.2%	16.4%	16.4%	17.2%	20.8%
Some College, No Degree	37.4%	17.4%	14.3%	16.5%	20.1%
Associate's Degree	6.8%	8.4%	7.7%	8.8%	9.0%
Bachelor's Degree	17.1%	37.3%	30.4%	25.5%	21.5%
Graduate or Professional Degree	1.4%	16.4%	20.1%	16.8%	13.0%

Source: U.S. Census 2024 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimate. | ¹⁴U.S. Census 2024 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates. Table B15001: Sex by Age by Educational Attainment for the Population 18 Years and Over.

Education

Appendix

OC: HIGHEST DEGREE ATTAINED BY RACE/ETHNICITY & GENDER¹⁵

RACE	NO HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA	HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA	SOME COLLEGE, NO DEGREE	ASSOCIATE'S DEGREE	BACHELOR'S DEGREE	GRADUATE OR PROFESSIONAL DEGREE
White	3.3% Women	14.8% Women	21.2% Women	9.7% Women	31.1% Women	19.9% Women
	3.7% Men	16.4% Men	17.6% Men	7.1% Men	34.4% Men	20.9% Men
Black or African American	6.1% Women	11.3% Women	25.0% Women	10.8% Women	24.6% Women	22.2% Women
	6.7% Men	30.0% Men	16.6% Men	8.7% Men	24.1% Men	13.8% Men
American Indian & Alaska Native	30.7% Women	25.1% Women	16.7% Women	7.1% Women	16.1% Women	4.2% Women
	23.9% Men	24.2% Men	20.8% Men	8.9% Men	18.5% Men	3.7% Men
Asian	12.2% Women	14.5% Women	10.6% Women	8.0% Women	35.7% Women	19.1% Women
	10.5% Men	11.6% Men	12.2% Men	5.8% Men	36.3% Men	23.7% Men
Native American & Other Pacific Islander ¹⁶	0.0% Women	12.5% Women	60.4% Women	3.8% Women	10.8% Women	9.5% Women
	0.1% Men	26.3% Men	18.1% Men	10.1% Men	17.5% Men	13.5% Men
Some Other Race	32.3% Women	27.2% Women	13.7% Women	6.4% Women	14.9% Women	5.7% Women
	34.3% Men	31.7% Men	16.4% Men	3.8% Men	9.7% Men	4.2% Men
Two or More Races	21.5% Women	24.0% Women	19.3% Women	8.2% Women	16.1% Women	10.9% Women
	24.8% Men	23.0% Men	17.7% Men	6.7% Men	19.7% Men	8.0% Men
ETHNICITY						
White Alone, Not Hispanic or Latino	2.4% Women	14.4% Women	21.2% Women	9.8% Women	31.8% Women	20.5% Women
	2.6% Men	15.6% Men	16.8% Men	7.2% Men	36.0% Men	21.7% Men
Hispanic or Latino	27.3% Women	25.7% Women	17.1% Women	7.4% Women	14.9% Women	7.5% Women
	30.2% Men	28.3% Men	18.3% Men	5.2% Men	12.5% Men	5.5% Men

Source: U.S. Census 2024 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimate. | ¹⁵U.S. Census 2024 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates, Table B15002A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, I: Sex by Age by Educational Attainment for the Population 18 Years and Over. | ¹⁶U.S. Census 2024 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates, Table B15002E.

Leadership & Representation

Appendix

OC OCCUPATION BY GENDER¹⁷

	WOMEN	MEN
OVERALL: CIVILIAN EMPLOYED POPULATION 16 YEARS AND OVER	46.1%	53.9%
MANAGEMENT, BUSINESS, SCIENCE AND ARTS OCCUPATIONS	48.1%	51.9%
Management, business, and financial occupations:	44.3%	55.7%
Management occupations	41.2%	58.8%
Business and financial operations occupations	50.0%	50.0%
Computer, engineering, and science occupations:	26.0%	74.0%
Computer and mathematical occupations	26.8%	73.2%
Architecture and engineering occupations	15.5%	84.5%
Life, physical, and social science occupations	52.5%	47.5%
Education, legal, community service, arts, and media occupations:	61.0%	39.0%
Community and social service occupations	69.4%	30.6%
Legal occupations	48.0%	52.0%
Educational instruction, and library occupations	71.2%	28.8%
Arts, design, entertainment, sports, and media occupations	42.1%	57.9%
Healthcare practitioners and technical occupations:	67.4%	32.6%
Health diagnosing and treating practitioners and other technical occupations	66.8%	33.2%
Health technologists and technicians	68.9%	31.1%
SERVICE OCCUPATIONS	53.2%	46.8%
Healthcare support occupations	73.0%	27.0%
Protective service occupations:	20.0%	80.0%
Firefighting and prevention, and other protective service workers including supervisors	18.1%	81.9%
Law enforcement workers including supervisors	23.6%	76.4%
Food preparation and serving related occupations	45.5%	54.5%
Building and grounds cleaning and maintenance occupations	41.0%	59.0%
Personal care and service occupations	73.6%	26.4%
SALES AND OFFICE OCCUPATIONS	55.3%	44.7%
Sales and related occupations	42.9%	57.1%
Office and administrative support occupations	68.1%	31.9%
NATURAL RESOURCES, CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE OCCUPATIONS	6.6%	93.4%
Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations	32.0%	68.0%
Construction and extraction occupations	4.6%	95.4%
Installation, maintenance, and repair occupations	4.7%	95.3%
PRODUCTION, TRANSPORTATION AND MATERIAL MOVING OCCUPATIONS	28.2%	71.8%
Production occupations	35.3%	64.7%
Transportation occupations	15.0%	85.0%
Material moving occupations	28.6%	71.4%

¹⁷U.S. Census 2024 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates. Table S2401: Occupation by Sex for the Civilian Employed Population 16 Years and Over.

Housing & Households

Appendix

OC HOUSEHOLDS¹⁸

	ALL HOUSEHOLDS	FAMILY HOUSEHOLDS HEADED BY WOMEN	NON-FAMILY HOUSEHOLDS HEADED BY WOMEN
Total	1,098,129	126,587	177,372
WITH OWN CHILDREN <18 YEARS	303,362	51,719	N/A
PERCENTAGE WITH CHILDREN <18 YEARS	31.0%	50.70%	N/A

¹⁸U.S. Census 2024 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates. Table S1101 Households and Families.

SELECTED COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH HOUSING¹⁹

	ORANGE COUNTY	CALIFORNIA	U.S.
OWNERSHIP COSTS			
Percentage of houses with a mortgage	64.7%	66.1%	59.7%
Percentage of households with selected costs of ownership 35% or greater of gross incomes <i>(homes with a mortgage)</i>	32.2%	30.9%	22.5%
RENTAL COSTS			
Median rent	\$2,483	\$2,104	\$1,487
Percentage of households with rent 35% or greater of gross income	45.4%	44.2%	39.4%

Source: U.S. Census 2024 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimate. | ¹⁹U.S. Census 2024 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates Table DP04 Selected Housing Characteristics.

OC WOMEN HOMELESS COUNTS²⁰

	2019	2022	2024
TOTAL COUNT	6,860	5,718	7,322
PERCENTAGE UNSHELTERED	57.7%	53.5%	57.0%

HOMELESS OF OC CONTINUUM OF CARE: WOMEN AND SURVIVORS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE²⁰

	2019	2022	2024
TOTAL HOMELESS COUNT	6,860	5,718	7,322
PERCENTAGE OF WOMEN	36.6%	36.2%	34.6%
PERCENTAGE OF VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE	7.8%	9.0%	9.2%

Source: County of Orange Point in Time. | ²⁰County of Orange Point in Time Summary

OC POPULATION WITH HEALTH INSURANCE, BY GENDER & AGE²¹

	WOMEN & GIRLS	MEN & BOYS
<6 years	97.9%	97.0%
6-18 years old	93.8%	96.3%
19-25 years old	93.7%	90.0%
26-34 years old	90.2%	89.3%
35-44 years old	94.0%	90.0%
45-54 years old	92.9%	90.2%
55-64 years old	95.2%	94.4%
65-74 years old	97.8%	98.5%
>75 years	99.5%	99.9%
Orange County Total	95.2%	93.4%
California Total	95.1%	92.5%

Source: U.S. Census 2024 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimate. | ²¹U.S. Census 2024 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates. Table B27001: Health Insurance Coverage Status by sex and by Age.

HEALTH INSURANCE BY RACE & ETHNICITY²²

	ORANGE COUNTY	ORANGE COUNTY 55+	CALIFORNIA
RACE			
White alone	96.5%	98.2%	96.4%
Black or African American alone	97.0%	97.7%	95.0%
American Indian and Alaska Native alone	87.1%	N/A	88.5%
Asian alone	96.4%	97.7%	96.6%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone	87.4%	N/A	87.2%
Some Other Race alone	88.8%	91.7%	88.9%
Two or more races	91.2%	93.4%	92.5%
ETHNICITY			
White alone, not Hispanic or Latino	96.7%		96.8%
Hispanic or Latino	89.5%		89.6%

Note: This data is for both women and men. | Source: U.S. Census 2024 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimate. | ²²U.S. Census 2024 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates. Table S2701: Health Insurance Coverage Status.

Violence & Domestic Abuse

Appendix

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE RELATED CALLS FOR ASSISTANCE IN OC²³

	2015	2017	2019	2021	2023	2024
Total Domestic Violence-Related Calls	8,443	8,542	10,978	10,386	9,011	9,642
No Weapon Involved (Verbal)	6,776	5,961	8,756	7,748	5,224	5,118
WEAPON INVOLVED	1,667	2,491	2,222	2,638	3,787	4,524
All Domestic Violence related calls involving a weapon of some kind	19.7%	29.2%	20.2%	25.4%	42.0%	46.9%
Weapon involved cases in which a personal weapon such as hands, feet, etc. used	79.1%	80.5%	76.6%	78.4%	83.8%	84.2%
Weapon involved cases in which firearm, knife or other dangerous weapon used	20.9%	19.5%	23.4%	21.6%	16.2%	15.8%

Source: Office of the Attorney General, State of California. | ²³Office of the Attorney General, State of California Department of Justice – Open Justice. Domestic Violence-Related Calls for Assistance.

