

RACE COUNTS

Senate District 15 Profile

Dave Cortese

Democrat



SUMMARY

Senate District 15 is the 14th most racially disparate Senate district in California. It ranks 6th out of 40 Senate districts in outcomes such as employment, health insurance, and homeownership.

BACKGROUND

RACE COUNTS analyzed 31 indicators, across seven issue areas, for every State Senate District and ranked districts by their outcomes and differences in those outcomes among racial groups.

Data sources for indicators include the California Department of Education, the California Department of Justice, the California Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment, the U.S. Census Bureau's American Community Survey, and others. All data are the most recent data published or within one year of publication. See [our methodology \(https://bit.ly/RCMethodology\)](https://bit.ly/RCMethodology) for more information.

WHY THIS IS IMPORTANT

Understanding racial disparities in each district is essential to creating fair and effective policy. Data on racial disparities highlight where local systems fail to deliver equitable outcomes and reveal opportunities for targeted policies that close gaps. By examining these disparities, policymakers can work alongside their constituents to promote equity in their districts.

WHAT YOU CAN DO ABOUT IT

Addressing racial disparities starts with partnership. Policymakers can engage community organizations that work directly with affected residents to understand their experiences and co-create solutions with them. By supporting data-driven policies, investing in equity initiatives, and amplifying community voices, policymakers can advance systemic change and ensure every community has the opportunity to thrive. Learn more about [Catalyst California's legislative priorities \(https://bit.ly/CatalystCAGovRelations\)](https://bit.ly/CatalystCAGovRelations).

Compare Senate District 15 to all districts by visiting <https://bit.ly/StateLegislatureData> or via QR Code.



SENATE DISTRICT 15 CHARACTERISTICS

District includes: A portion of Santa Clara County

Compared to the average Senate District

District 15	Outcomes	Racial Disparity
Democracy	Better	Better
Economic Opportunity	Better	Better
Education	Better	Worse
Health Care Access	Better	Worse
Healthy Built Environment	Better	Better
Housing	Better	Worse
Safety & Justice	Better	Worse

Want to compare your district's data to other California geographies?

Visit RaceCounts.org

District 15 indicators with the worst outcomes:

- Lack of Greenspace
- Teacher & Staff Diversity
- School Suspensions
- Overcrowded Housing
- High School Graduation

District 15 indicators with the worst racial disparity:

- Officer-Initiated Stops
- Overcrowded Housing
- School Suspensions
- Health Insurance
- Chronic Absenteeism

Across indicators in Senate District 15, Latinx residents are most impacted by racial disparity, with the worst rates for 12 out of 31 indicators with available data. All races lose when systemic racism remains unchecked.

Want to improve outcomes and reduce racial disparities?

Contact us at info@racecounts.org

About Catalyst California

Catalyst California advocates for racial justice by building power and transforming public systems. We partner with communities of color, conduct innovative research, develop policies for actionable change, and shift money and power back into our communities. RACE COUNTS is a project of Catalyst California, California Calls, PICO California, and USC's Equity Research Institute.



PICO California
Unlocking the Power of People™



CALIFORNIA CALLS

USCDornsife
Equity Research Institute

