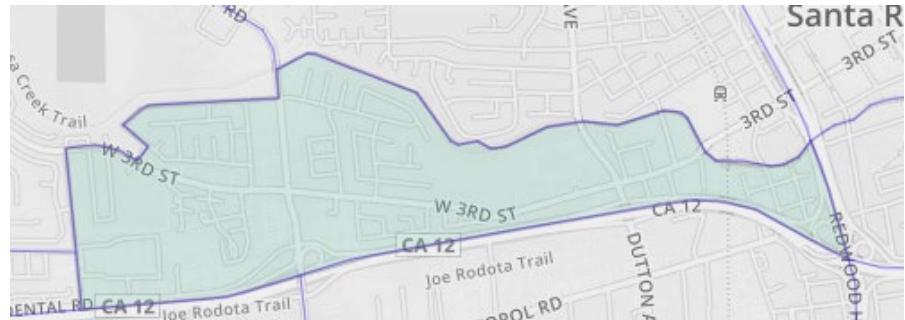# Neighborhood Profile –
Railroad Square

Census Tract: 153003

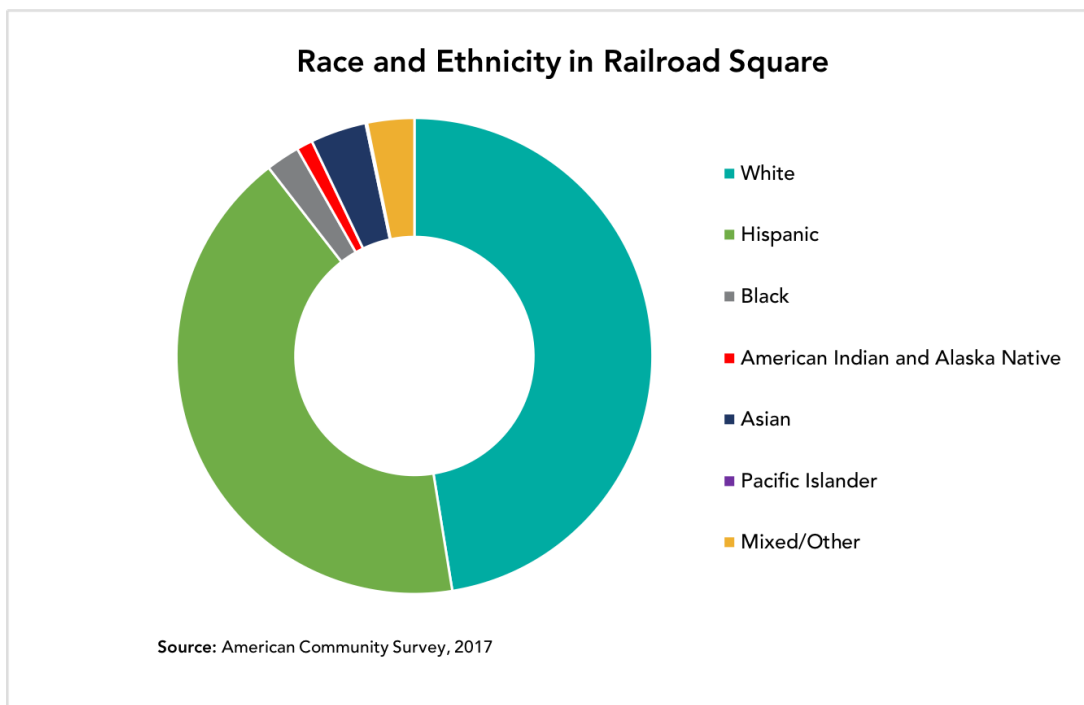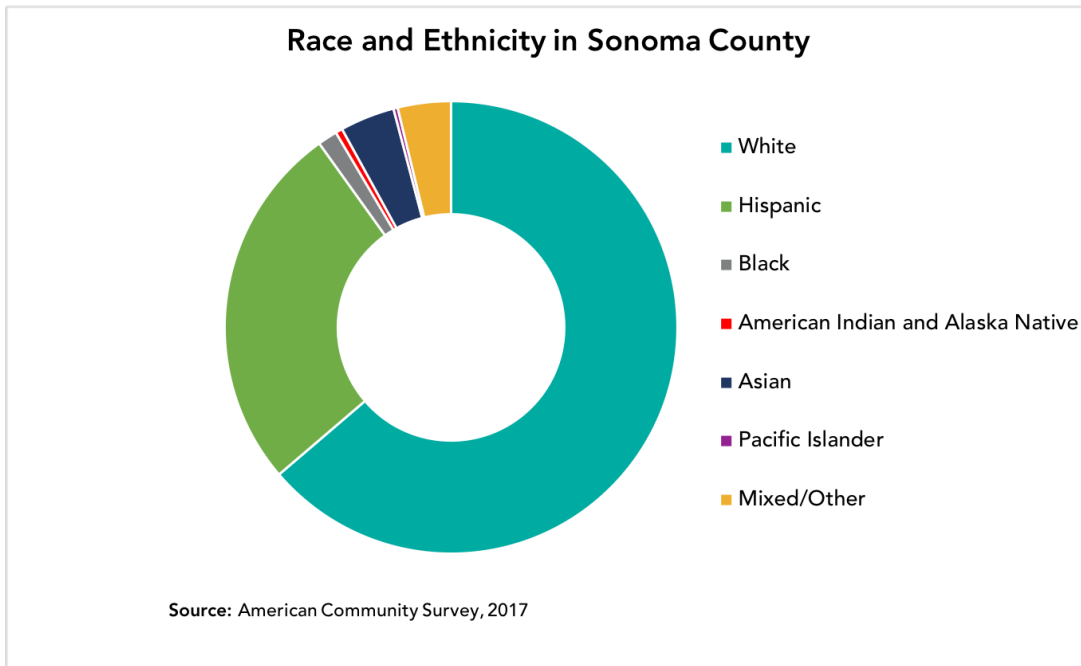The Railroad Square neighborhood is a census tract in the Sonoma County in Supervisorial Districts 3 and 5. The neighborhood is predominately white with 50.1% identifying as such. A significant percentage (18.7%) of individuals reported being able to speak English less than "very well." The median income is significantly lower than the rest of Sonoma County ($23,000/yr vs. $72,000/yr). The share of the population that is employed is similar to that of the county, however, the unemployment rate is nearly three times that of the rest of the county.

The neighborhood has a higher rate of households who rent than the rest of the county. Homeowners and renters both face higher instances of overcrowding but better living conditions. Renters in this neighborhood have lower rates of housing cost burden than the county on average, but homeowners exhibit higher rates of housing cost burden. The share of adults with a college education is lower than that of the county, as are high school graduation and preschool enrollment rates. However, K-12 students in the neighborhood perform well, scoring higher in English and math proficiency and showing lower rates of truancy.

The neighborhood has excellent tree canopy and supermarket access, and very good air quality, but very low preschool enrollment.

Total Population: 6,224[1]

Race & Ethnicity

Race and Ethnicity in Sonoma County

- White
- Hispanic
- Black
- American Indian and Alaska Native
- Asian
- Pacific Islander
- Mixed/Other

Source: American Community Survey, 2017

Race and Ethnicity in Railroad Square

- White
- Hispanic
- Black
- American Indian and Alaska Native
- Asian
- Pacific Islander
- Mixed/Other

Source: American Community Survey, 2017

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[1] American Community Survey, 2013-2017

Employment & Income

	Countywide	Railroad Square
Median Income	$71,769	$23,904
Population Employed	60.7%	61%
Unemployment	3.8%	10.6%

Vulnerable Populations

	Countywide	Railroad Square
People employed in Farming, Fishing and Forestry	1.9%	1.0%
Foreign Born	1.3%	21.2%
Speak English Less than "very well"	11%	18.7%
Renters	39.7%	48.5%
People in Poverty	10.7%	16.8%
Elderly in Poverty	17.3%	9.1%
Veterans in Poverty	10.1%	6.1%
People with Disabilities in Poverty	12%	3.9%
Youth in Foster Care	2.1%	.5%

(Source: American Community Survey 2013-2017)

Languages Spoken

	Countywide	Railroad Square
Population 5 years and over	474,758	5,643
English only	74.4%	64%
Spanish	19.7%	31.1%
Speak English less than "very well"	9.1%	16.5%
Other Indo-European languages	2.7%	1.9%
Speak English less than "very well"	0.6%	.74%
Asian and Pacific Islander languages	2.6%	3%
Speak English less than "very well"	1.1%	1.6%
Other languages	0.5%	0%

Speak English less than "very well"	0.2%	0%
Language other than English	25.6%	36%
Speak English less than "very well"	11.0%	18.7%

Housing Conditions

	Countywide	Railroad Square
Housing Tenure	Homeowners: 60.3%	Homeowners: 51.5%
	Renters: 39.7%	Renters: 48.5%
Overcrowding (>1 occupant per room)	Homeowners: 2.5%	Homeowners: 5.5%
	Renters: 9.2%	Renters: 20.5%
Substandard Conditions	Without Complete Kitchen Facilities	Without Complete Kitchen Facilities
	Homeowners: 0.3%	Homeowners: 0%
	Renters: 1.8%	Renters: 0%
	Without Complete Plumbing Facilities	Without Complete Plumbing Facilities
	Homeowners: 0.2%	Homeowners: 0%
	Renters: 0.6%	Renters: 0%
High Housing Cost Burden	Homeowners	Homeowners
	With mortgage: 39.6%	With mortgage: 55.2%
	Without mortgage: 15.9%	Without mortgage: 33.7%
	Renters: 56.1%	Renters: 46.1%

(Source: American Community Survey 2013-2017)

Displacement Risk

This neighborhood is a lower income census tract that is currently experiencing ongoing gentrification/displacement.

(Source: Urban Displacement Project)

Lending

	Countywide	Railroad Square
Population ACS 2013-2017	500,943	6,224 (1.2% of the County's population)
Loans made in 2017	19529	231 (1.2% of all loans made in the County)
High Cost Loans (as a percentage of total single-family owner-occupied home loans)	273 (1.4% of all loans made in the County)	5 (2.2% of all loans made in this neighborhood)

Loan Applications approved, but not accepted	511 (2.6% of all loans made in the County)	6 (2.6% of all loans made in this neighborhood)
Loan Application Denials (as a percentage of total single family owner-occupied home loans)	2,395 (12.3% of all loans made in the County)	30 (13.0% of all loans made in this neighborhood)

(Source: Home Mortgage Disclosure Act – consumerfinance.gov/hmda)

Education

	Countywide	Railroad Square
Percentage of College Educated Adults (Source: American Community Survey 2013-2017)	32.3%	25.8%
Percentage of 4th Graders with English Proficiency (Source: Kidsdata.org Students Meeting or Exceeding Grade-Level Standard in English Language Arts (CAASPP) 4th grade)	44%	56.2%
Elementary School Truancy Rate (Source: CDE)	31.5%	21.1%
4th Grade Math Proficiency Rate (Source: Kidsdata.org)	37%	71.6%
High School Graduation Rate (Source: CDE)	87.3%	79.4%

(Source – UC Davis Regional Opportunity Index)

Healthy Places Index Information

	Railroad Square (Percentile among tracts in CA)
Neighborhood Strengths	
High School Enrollment – This tract has a higher percentage of 15-17 year olds in school than **100%** of other California census tracts.	**100th**
Tree Canopy – This tract has a higher percentage of land with tree canopy (weighted by number of people per acre) than **81.8%** of other California census tracts.	**81.8th**
Supermarket Access – This tract has a higher percentage of people in urban areas who live less than a half mile from a supermarket/large grocery store, or less than 1 mile in rural areas than **83.1%** of other California census tracts.	**83.1th**
Clean Air – Ozone – This tract has a lower average amount of ozone in the air during the most polluted 8 hours of summer days than **96.1%** of other California census tracts.	**96.1th**
Clean Air – PM 2.5 – This tract has a lower yearly average of fine particulate matter concentration (very small particles from vehicle tailpipes, tires and brakes, powerplants, factories, burning wood, construction dust, and many other sources) than **93.8%** of other California census tracts.	**93.8th**
Neighborhood Vulnerabilities	
Preschool Enrollment – This tract has a higher percentage of 3 and 4 year olds in school than just **18.4%** of other California census tracts.	**18.4th**

Uses data from: https://map.healthyplacesindex.org

* Point estimates at the census tract level often have margins of error greater than 10 percent of the total value. Use these estimates appropriately.