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# Recreation Diversity and Equity – A Conversation

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# Why Now?

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## Executive Order 12898

- “Environmental Justice Mandate”

Equity can be considered ‘fair’ and ‘just’

- Procedural Justice – the fairness of processes by which decisions are made
- Distributive Justice – fairness in the distribution of rights or resources

Equity is paramount to contributions toward current and future sustainability  
*Winter et al., 2019a.*

## Current inequities

- Uneven distribution of environmental quality, eg. safe, quality greenspaces (*deVries et al., 2003; Jesdale et al., 2013; Rigolon et al., 2018; South et al., 2018*)
- Climate change
- Covid 19

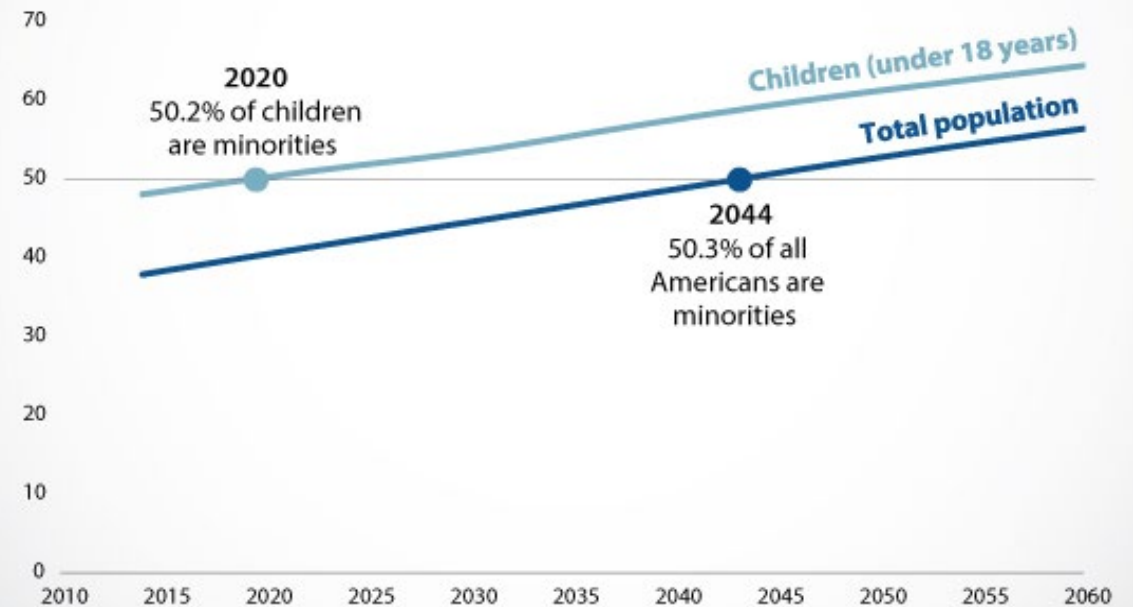
# Census Data



## Projecting Majority-Minority

Non-Hispanic Whites May No Longer Comprise Over 50 Percent of the U.S. Population by 2044

Percent Minority by Age Group: 2014 to 2060



Note: Minority is defined in this figure as any group other than non-Hispanic white.

# Changing Demography

“...to sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of the nation’s forests and grasslands to meet the needs of present and **future generations.**”

## Population by Race and Hispanic Origin: 2014 and 2060

(Population in thousands)

Race and Hispanic origin <sup>1</sup>	2014		2060		Change, 2014 to 2060	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
<b>Total population</b> .....	<b>318,748</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>416,795</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>98,047</b>	<b>30.8</b>
One Race .....	310,753	97.5	390,772	93.8	80,020	25.8
White .....	246,940	77.5	285,314	68.5	38,374	15.5
Non-Hispanic White .....	198,103	62.2	181,930	43.6	-16,174	-8.2
Black or African American .....	42,039	13.2	59,693	14.3	17,654	42.0
American Indian and Alaska Native .....	3,957	1.2	5,607	1.3	1,650	41.7
Asian .....	17,083	5.4	38,965	9.3	21,882	128.1
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander .....	734	0.2	1,194	0.3	460	62.6
Two or More Races .....	7,995	2.5	26,022	6.2	18,027	225.5
<b>Race Alone or in Combination<sup>2</sup></b>		<b>40.5%</b>		<b>61.3%</b>		
White .....	254,009	79.7	309,567	74.3	55,558	21.9
Black or African American .....	45,562	14.3	74,530	17.9	28,968	63.6
American Indian and Alaska Native .....	6,528	2.0	10,169	2.4	3,640	55.8
Asian .....	19,983	6.3	48,575	11.7	28,592	143.1
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander .....	1,458	0.5	2,929	0.7	1,470	100.8
<b>Hispanic or Latino Origin</b>						
Hispanic .....	55,410	17.4	119,044	28.6	63,635	114.8
Not Hispanic .....	263,338	82.6	297,750	71.4	34,412	13.1

<sup>1</sup> Hispanic origin is considered an ethnicity, not a race. Hispanics may be of any race. Responses of "Some Other Race" from the 2010 Census are modified. For more information, see <[www.census.gov/popest/data/historical/files/MRSF-01-US1.pdf](http://www.census.gov/popest/data/historical/files/MRSF-01-US1.pdf)>.

<sup>2</sup> "In combination" means in combination with one or more other races. The sum of the five race groups adds to more than the total population, and 100 percent, because individuals may report more than one race.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2014 National Projections.

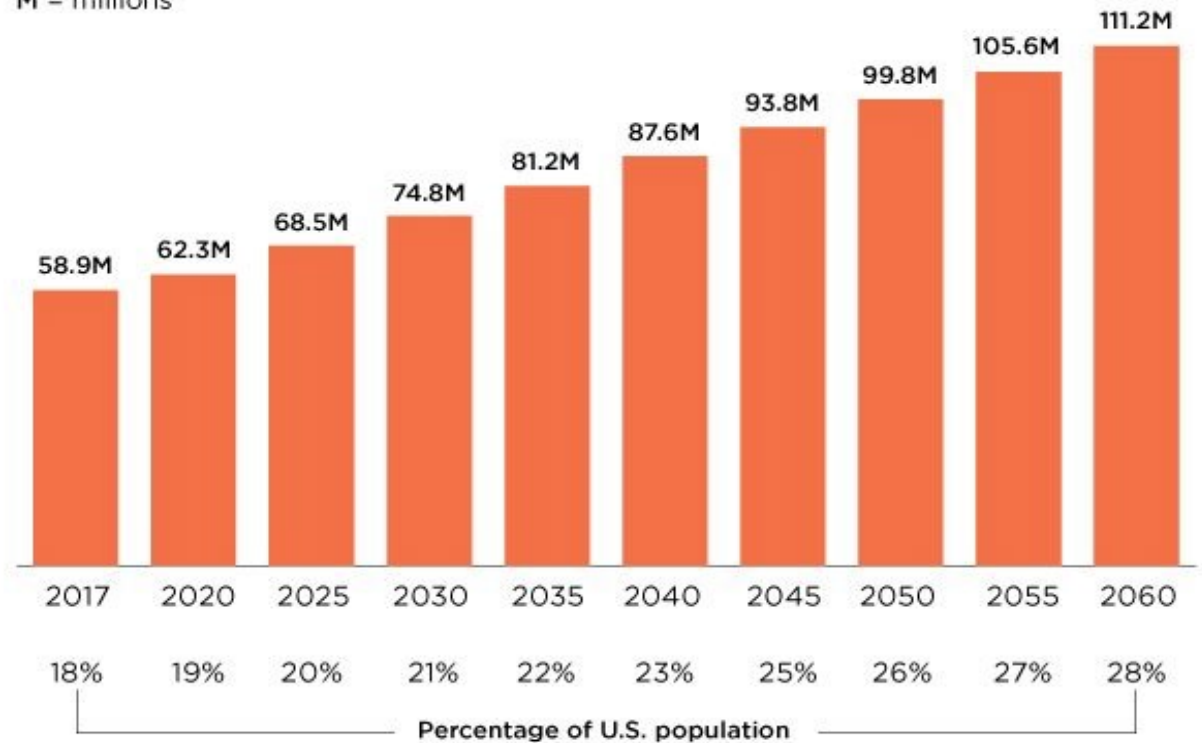


# Census Data

## Hispanic Population to Reach 111 Million by 2060

Projected Hispanic Population 2020 to 2060

M = millions

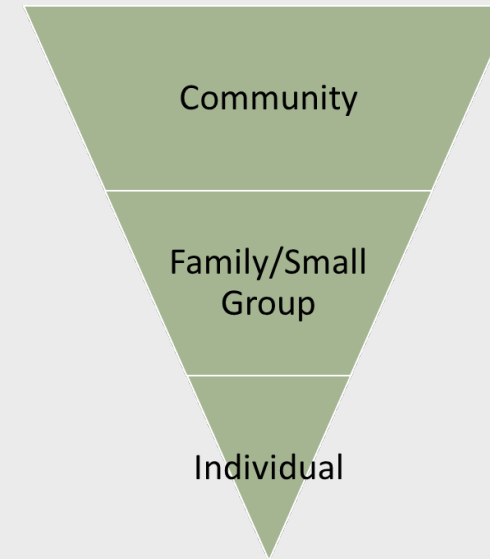




# Myriad Benefits of Nature Exposure & Outdoor Recreation

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- Affect
  - Awe, happiness, joy, contentment
- Cognition
  - Improved attention, concentration & memory
- Socioemotional well-being
  - Increase in self-esteem, local / indigenous identity
  - Connection with nature
- Physical improvements
  - Immune system, shifting sedentary lifestyles
  - Some offset to health inequities
- Path to learn about the Forest Service



*Ballew & Omoto, 2018; Bratman et al., 2012; Ewert & Chang, 2018; Frumkin et al., 2017; Hartig et al., 2014; Karjalainen et al., 2010; Kondo et al., 2015; Mitchell & Popham, 2008; South et al., 2018; Winter et al., 2020; Wolsko et al., 2019*



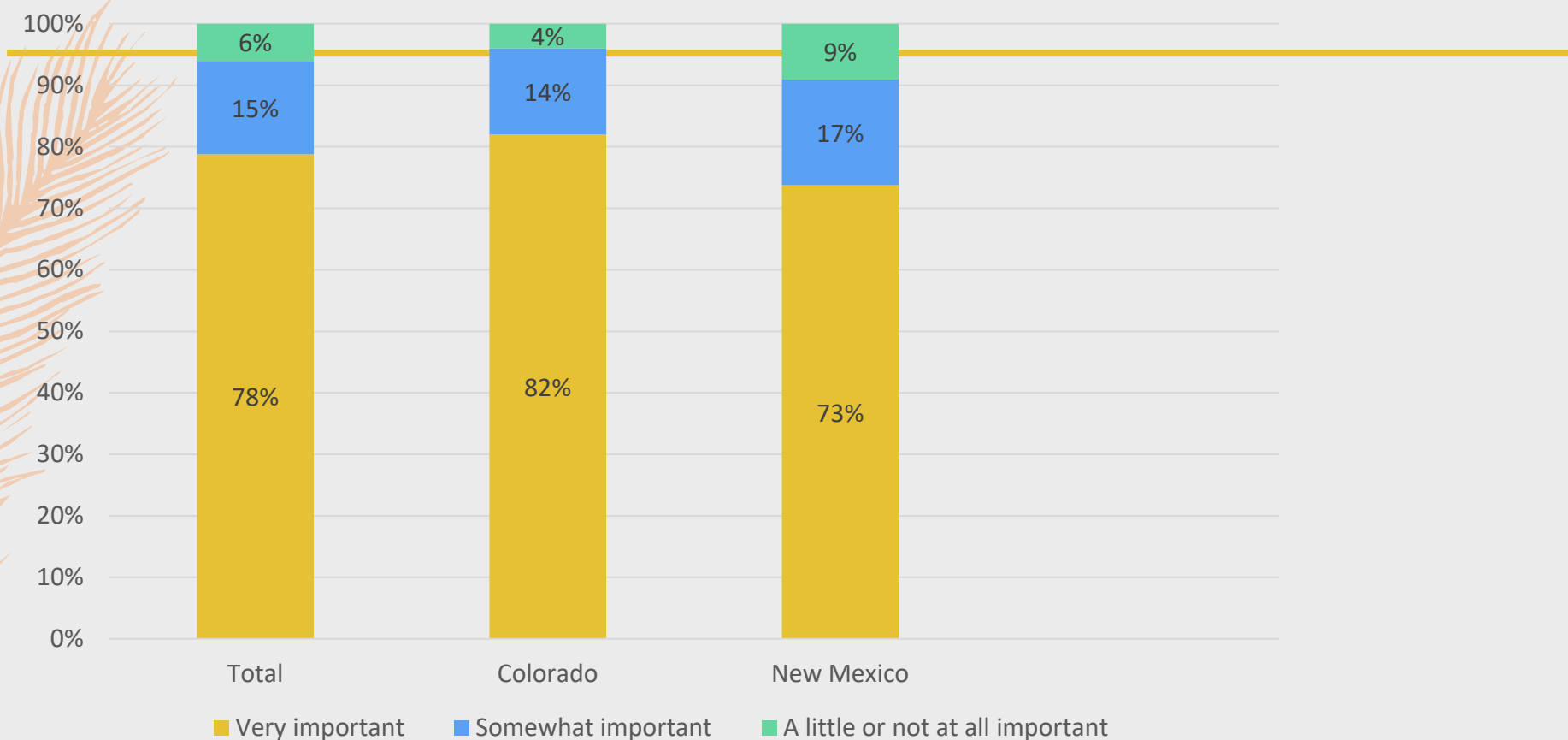
# These Important Benefits are not Distributed Equally

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	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
African American/Black	8%	8%	8%	11%	7%	11%	11%	10%	8%	9%
Asian/Pacific Islander	4%	6%	5%	6%	6%	7%	7%	7%	7%	7%
Caucasian/ White, non- Hispanic	77%	75%	78%	71%	76%	71%	68%	70%	71%	70%
Hispanic	7%	7%	7%	9%	8%	8%	10%	10%	12%	12%

# Importance of Public Land for Family Recreation

How important is it for government to preserve and protect our community's public lands and open spaces for family recreation and the overall well-being of the environment?



Source: HECHO/LD Colorado and New Mexico Survey, 2014; Analysis conducted by University of New Mexico



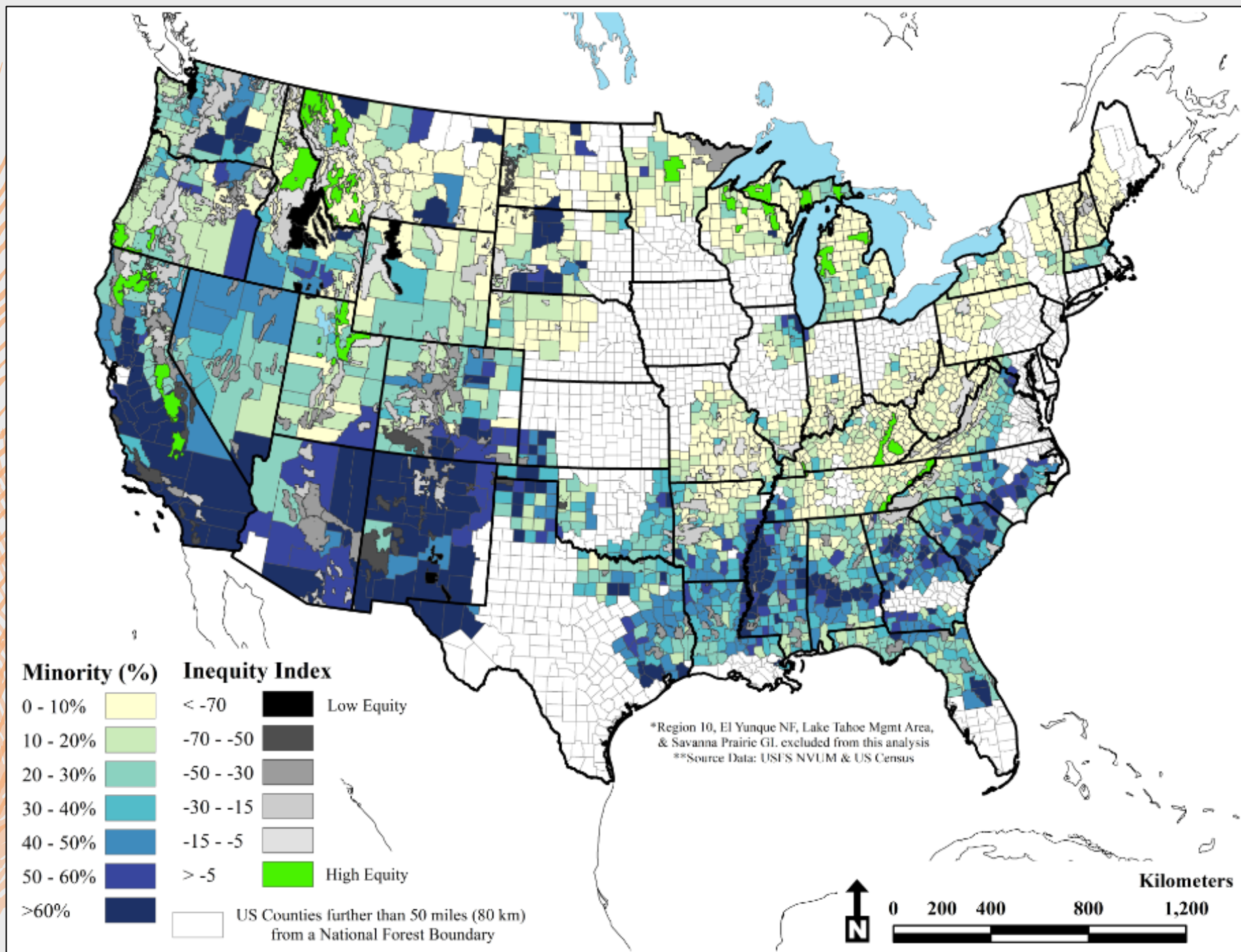
# Ethno-racial Diversity in U.S. vs. Representation in NF Visits

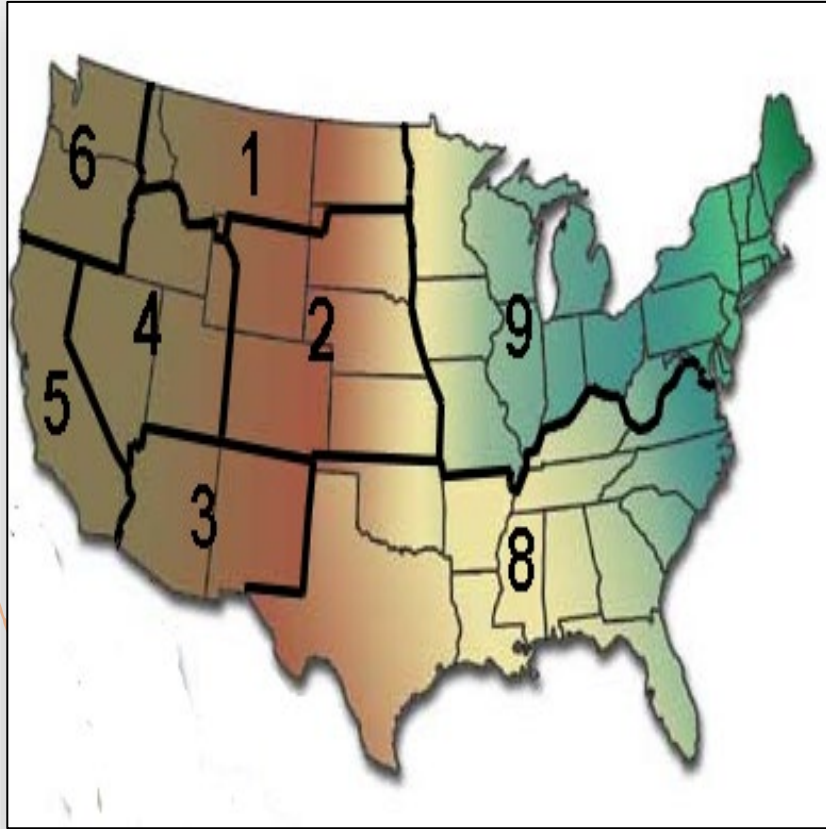
	2010 US Census	NVUM - National Forest Visits
<b><i>White</i></b>	<b>62.6%</b>	<b>94.6%</b>
<b><i>Black / African American</i></b>	<b>13.2%</b>	<b>1.2%</b>
<b><i>Asian</i></b>	<b>5.3%</b>	<b>2.6%</b>
<b><i>Hawaiian / Pacific Islander</i></b>	<b>0.2%</b>	<b>1.4%</b>
<b><i>American Indian / Alaska Native</i></b>	<b>1.2%</b>	<b>2.4%</b>
<b><i>Hispanic</i></b>	<b>17.1%</b>	<b>5.7%</b>

Flores, D.; Falco, G.; Roberts, N.S.; Valenzuela, F.P., III. Recreation equity: Is the Forest Service serving its diverse publics? *J. For.* **2018**, 116, 266–272.

# Example: Tonto National Forest

County	% NFV Minority	% County Minority	Difference
<i>Apache</i>	24.9	82.5	-57.6
<i>Navajo</i>	24.9	61.5	-36.6
<i>Coconino</i>	24.9	51.8	-26.9
<i>Yavapai</i>	24.9	24.3	+0.6
<i>Gila</i>	24.9	41.1	-16.2
<i>Pinal</i>	24.9	56.1	-31.2
<i>Graham</i>	24.9	58.3	-33.4
<i>Maricopa</i>	24.9	56.6	-31.7
<i>Pima</i>	24.9	60.2	-35.3
<i>Inequity Index Value</i>			<b>-29.8</b>





	Local Minority Population (%)	Visitor Population Minority (%)	Inequity Index
<b>R1 Northern Region</b>	12.1	5.4	-7.0
<b>R2 Rocky Mt. Region</b>	40.1	7.1	-32.9
<b>R3 Southwestern</b>	60.6	18.8	-41.8
<b>R4 Intermountain West</b>	41.5	9.9	-31.6
<b>R5 Pacific Southwest</b>	49.7	21.5	-28.2
<b>R6 Pacific Northwest</b>	28.8	9.1	-19.7
<b>R8 Southern</b>	34.3	11.9	-22.4
<b>R9 Eastern</b>	20.2	8.2	-12.0
<b>NFS</b>	<b>35.5</b>	<b>11.7</b>	<b>-23.8</b>





# Had Ever Visited a National Forest

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Gender	White/ Caucasian	Hispanic/ Latino	Asian/Pac Islander	Black/Afr American	Amer Ind/ Alaska Native
	Pct <sup>a</sup>	Pct	Pct	Pct	Pct
Female	94.1	54.5	74.2	63.6	78.9
Male	96.4	71.9	73.3	56.2	100.0

Winter PL, Crano WD, Basañez T, Lamb CS. 2020b. Equity in access to outdoor recreation—Informing a sustainable future. Sustainability. 12(1): 124. doi.org/10.3390/su12010124



# Last Time Visited a National Forest

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Last Time Visited	White/ Caucasian	Hispanic/ Latino	Asian/Pac Islander	Black/Afr American	Amer Ind/ Alaska Native
	Pct, <i>n</i>	Pct, <i>n</i>	Pct, <i>n</i>	Pct, <i>n</i>	Pct, <i>n</i>
Last week	10.1, 105	5.7, 15	7.1, 4	5.6, 3	17.5, 7
Last month	14.3, 149	7.2, 19	8.9, 5	9.3, 5	17.5, 7
Last six months	26.2, 272	24.9, 66	30.4, 17	7.4, 4	27.5, 11
Last year	13.0, 135	18.1, 48	21.4, 12	11.1, 6	10.0, 4
More than one year	36.4, 378	44.2, 117	32.1, 18	66.7, 36	27.5, 11



# Barriers to Outdoor Recreation

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Never Visited (309 participants- 258 specific reasons provided)

- a lack of time (including work, school, or family responsibilities—106 mentions)
- a lack of money (35 mentions)
- lack of interest (27 mentions)
- distance to the forest (23 mentions)
- lack of information (18 mentions) or
- transportation (17 mentions)

Why not visit more often (1754 responses)

- lack of time (360 mentions)
- work or school (322 mentions)
- lack of money (264 mentions)
- too far/distance to national forest (151 mentions)
- health or physical limitations (124 mentions)
- age (93 mentions)
- family responsibilities (61 mentions), and
- transportation (49 mentions)



# Ranking of Four Major Constraints by Ethnoracial Group

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Constraint	White/ Caucasian	Hispanic/ Latino	Asian/Pac Islander	Black/Afr American	Amer Ind/ Alaska Native
	Rank	Rank	Rank	Rank	Rank
Time	1	1	1	1	1
Age/health	2	4	4	3	3
Money	3	2	3	2	2
Travel	4	3	2	3	4





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*What can the Forest Service do  
to improve equitable access /  
increase diversity for outdoor  
recreation?*

A large, stylized orange feather graphic is positioned on the left side of the slide, extending from the bottom towards the top. It has multiple barbs, giving it a textured appearance.

# Sample Strategies – An Evidence Based Approach

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Overarching goals

Invite, Include & Involve

Chavez DJ. 2000. Invite, include, and involve: racial groups, ethnic groups, and leisure. Diversity and the Recreation Profession: Organizational Perspectives. State College, PA: Venture Publishing, p. 179-191

# Invite!







DESCUBRE el  
**BOSQUE**

# Information Sources Most Trusted

	Caucasian	Latino	Asian	Af Amer	Amer Ind
Internet	58	54	56	54	49
Friends	14	11	25	15	19
Visitor centers or park staff	11	6	10	9	12
Relatives	7	6	3	8	12

Winter PL, Crano WD, Basañez T, Lamb CS. 2020b. Equity in access to outdoor recreation—Informing a sustainable future. Sustainability. 12(1): 124. doi.org/10.3390/su12010124





# Include!





# From Rugged Individualism to Communal Experiences





# Include!





# Creating New Meanings



*INNER City Anglers*



#DIVERSIFY OUTDOORS –A  
COALITION OF SOCIAL MEDIA  
INFLUENCERS



Where Black People  
& Nature Meet

# Awakening & Strengthening the Connection of Urban Youth to the Land

Final Report Submitted to USFS  
June 2017



CAL POLY  
SAN LUIS OBISPO



## Involve!

*Zoom in 29*

*Outside your door!*

- **Young Producers Bridge the Divide between Urban Youth and Public Lands**

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLQMetRBbkaeLoRw5USK9adTtNCX0pOevn>

BAYCAT; San Francisco State University; US Forest Service, Pacific Southwest Research Station



# Involve!





# Building a Sense of Belonging







# Additional Resources

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- Roberts NS, Chavez DJ, Lara BM, Sheffield EA. 2009. Serving culturally diverse visitors to forests in California: a resource guide. Gen. Tech. Rep. PSW-GTR-222. Albany, CA: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Pacific Southwest Research Station. 76 p
- Sanchez JJ, Cervený LK, Blahna DJ, Valenzuela F, Schlafmann M. 2020. Chapter 3: Recreation opportunities and human connections on public lands: Constraints that limit recreation participation. In: Selin, Cervený, Blahna, Miller, eds. 2020. Igniting research for outdoor recreation: linking science, policy, and action. Gen. Tech. Rep. PNW-GTR-987. Portland, OR: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Pacific Northwest Research Station: 41-50.



***Thank you!***

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