Inglewood Oil Field (IOF) Communities' Survey

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Background

- LA County Board of Supervisors requested community health assessment

- Components of the community health assessment
  - Community health evaluation, February 2011
    - Mortality (LA County Public Health)
    - Low-birth-weight births (LA County Public Health)
    - Birth defects (CA Birth Defects Monitoring Program)
    - Cancer incidence (USC Cancer Surveillance Program)
  - Community survey, April 2012

- Health working group of residents

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Survey Components

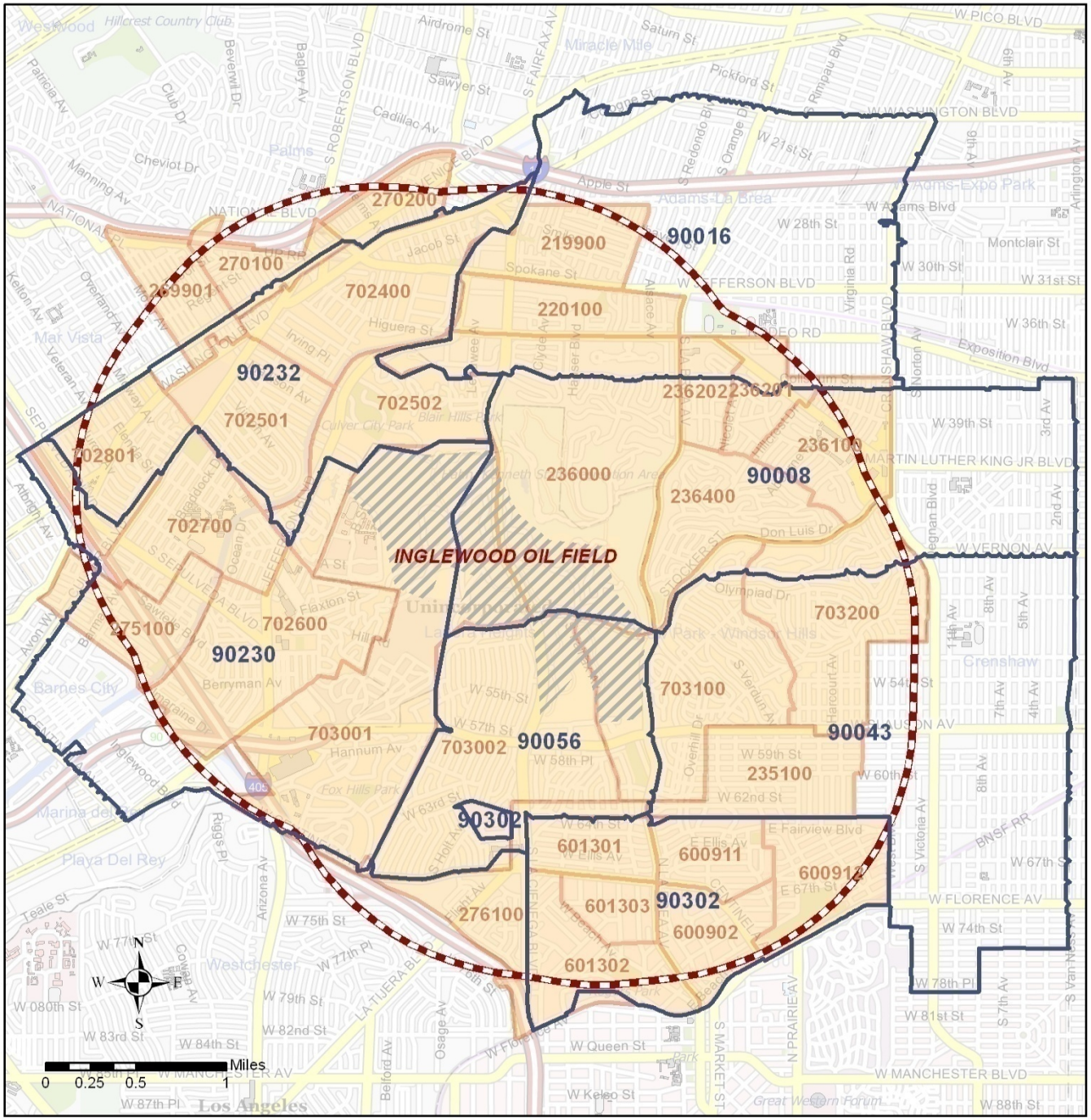
- Self-reported health conditions
- Lifestyle factors
- Demographics
- Environmental Concerns

Limitations

- Cannot confirm whether oil drilling activities directly affect health outcomes among those living nearby
- Cannot establish causal relationships between the oil field and specific health outcomes

Methods

- Compared responses to LA County Health Survey (LACHS)
- Telephone interview of 1,020 adults living near IOF
- Survey conducted in English and Spanish



Census Tracts & Zip Codes Near the Inglewood Oil Field

Legend

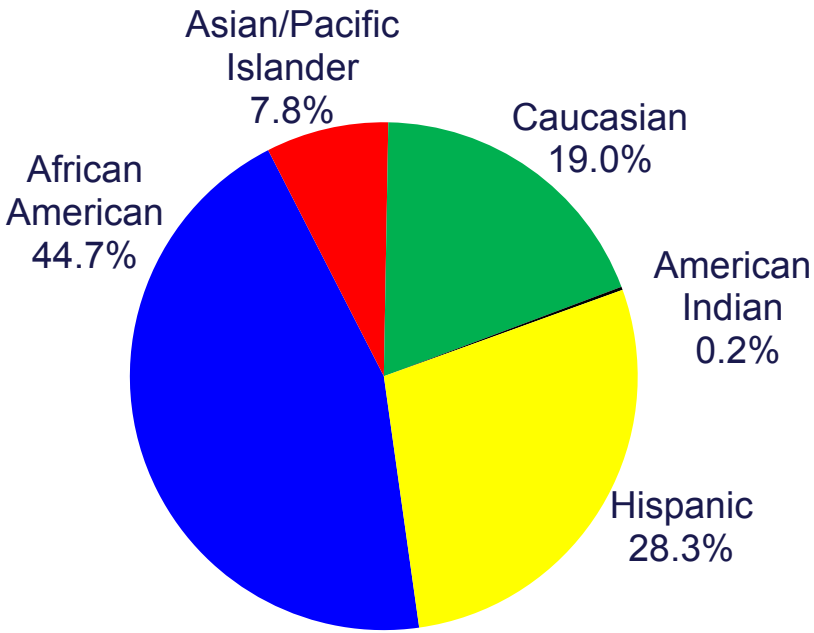
- study area
- 1.5 mile buffer
- selected census tracts
- selected ZIP Codes

Estimated population:
PEPS 2007 = 152,035
Census 2000 = 146,461

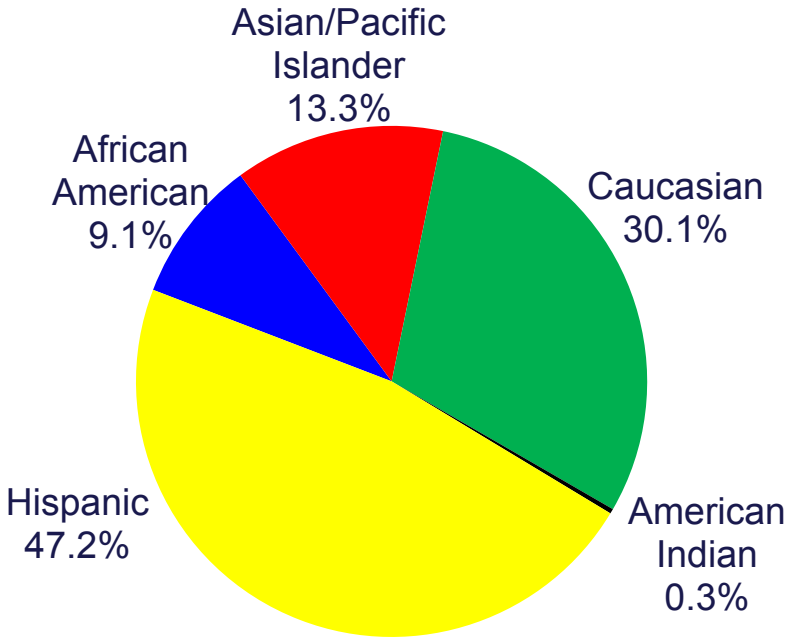
Prepared by LA County Department of Public Health, Office of Health Assessment and Epidemiology, 12/2010

Race/Ethnicity of the Populations

Inglewood Oil Field Communities



Los Angeles County



Demographics & Household Characteristics

- Participants in IOF Communities' Survey were MORE likely to have:
  - Completed some college (32.8% vs. 24.4%)
  - Been born in the U.S. (71.0% vs. 59.3%)
- Participants in IOF Communities' Survey were LESS likely to:
  - Be home owners (42.0% vs. 52.0%)
- Similar poverty levels in IOF communities and LA County
  - (47.2% vs. 43.5% below 300% FPL)

General Health & Quality of Life Indicators

	IOF	LA County
Health Status is Excellent/Very Good	46.0%	48.8%
Health Status is Fair/Poor	17.0%	18.5%
Average # of Poor Physical Health Days (in past month)	3.5%	3.2%
Average # of Poor Mental Health Days (in past month)	3.1%	3.1%
Average # Activity Limitation Days Due to Poor Physical/Mental Health (in past month)	2.4%	2.1%

Health Conditions

	IOF	LA County
Current Asthma	7.1%	6.5%
Hypertension	**30.0%**	**24.7%**
High Cholesterol	26.6%	29.1%
Depression	12.3%	13.6%
Diabetes	11.5%	8.7%
Heart Disease	6.1%	7.7%
Chronic Respiratory Conditions (such as emphysema or chronic bronchitis)	3.7%	4.1%

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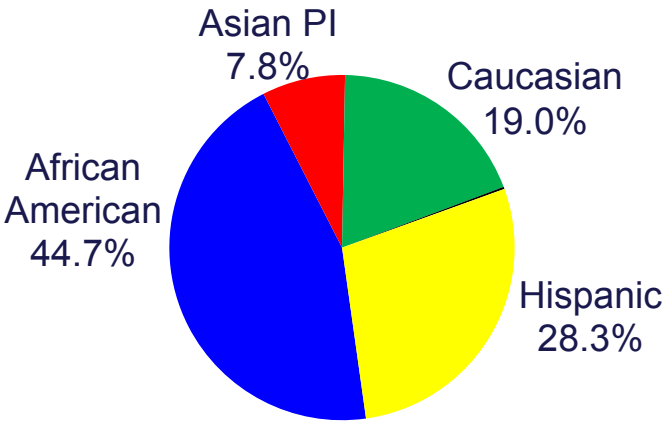
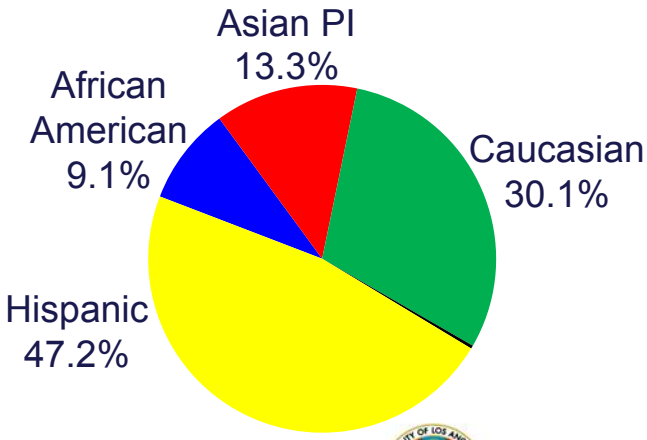
Chronic Conditions in Both IOF Communities and LA County

African American	Asian/ Pacific Islander	Caucasian	Hispanic
Current Asthma Hypertension Diabetes		Depression	



IOF Communities



LA County

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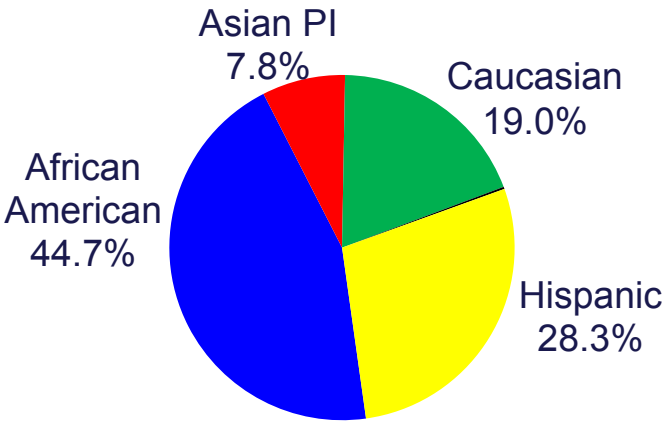
Health Behaviors

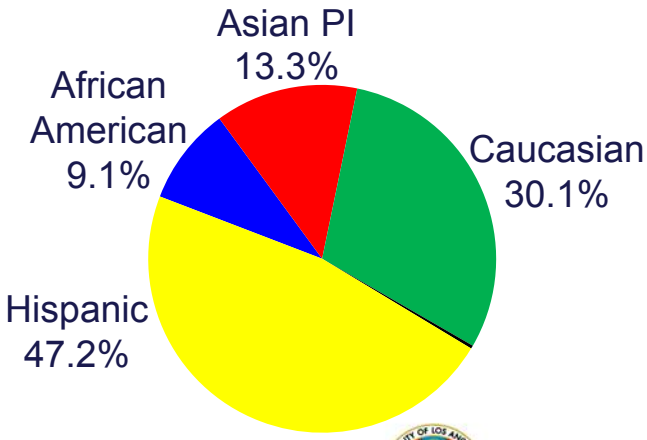
	IOF	LA County
Current Cigarette Smoking	13.2%	14.3%
Secondhand Smoke Exposure	17.2%	14.2%
Obese (BMI ≥ 30)	26.2%	22.2%
Overweight (BMI 25 – 29.9)	39.3%	35.9%
Consume Fast Food ≥ Once a Week	38.1%	40.2%
Consume Sweetened Drinks ≥ Once a Day	**30.4%**	**38.8%**

Health Behaviors in Both IOF Communities and LA County

African American	Asian/ Pacific Islander	Caucasian	Hispanic
Current Smoking Secondhand Smoke			Consume Sweetened Drinks



IOF Communities



LA County

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Environmental Concerns

	Very Concerned	
	IOF	LA County
Drinking Water Safety	60.1%	60.2%
Air Pollution	58.3%	58.7%
Pesticide Exposure	**50.7%**	**42.8%**
Heavy Metal Exposure	50.4%	44.7%
Oil Field Emissions	42.7%	NA

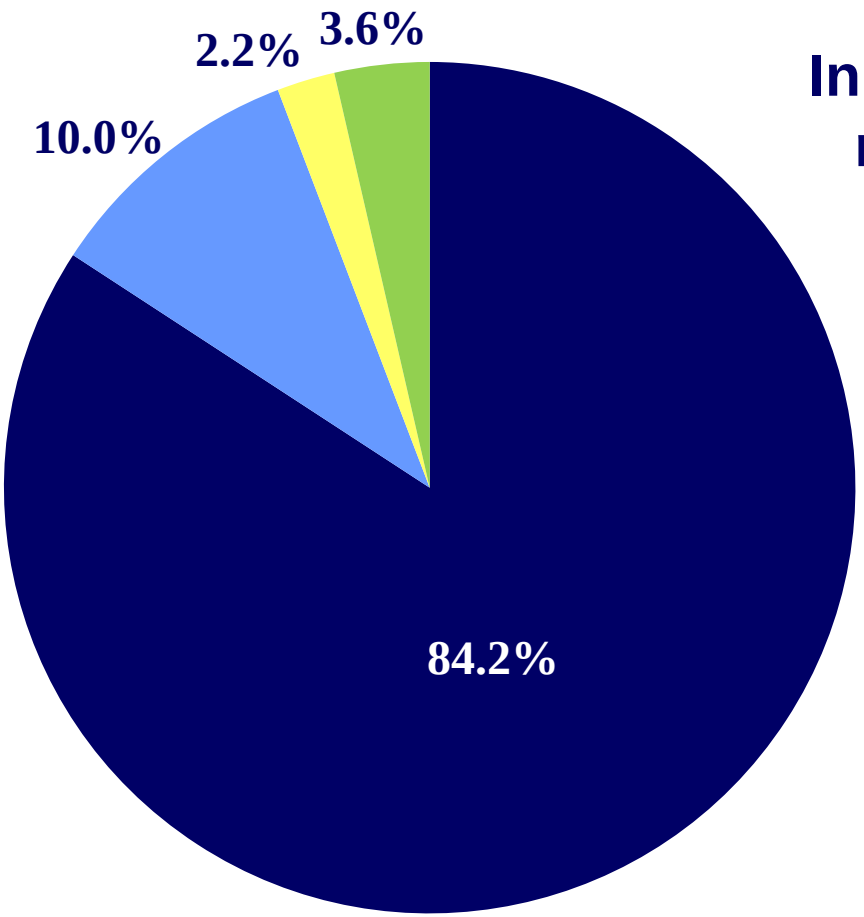
NA = not applicable since category was not assessed in survey

Concern by Proximity to IOF

	Census Tracts Adjacent	Census Tracts Not Adjacent
Very Concerned about Oil Field Emissions	40.6%	44.0%

*Unstable estimate based on small numbers of individuals

Odors



In the past six months, have you noticed any offensive odor in your neighborhood or while outdoors at your home?

- No
- Yes, but not related to the oil field
- Yes, but don't know if related
- Yes, related to the oil field

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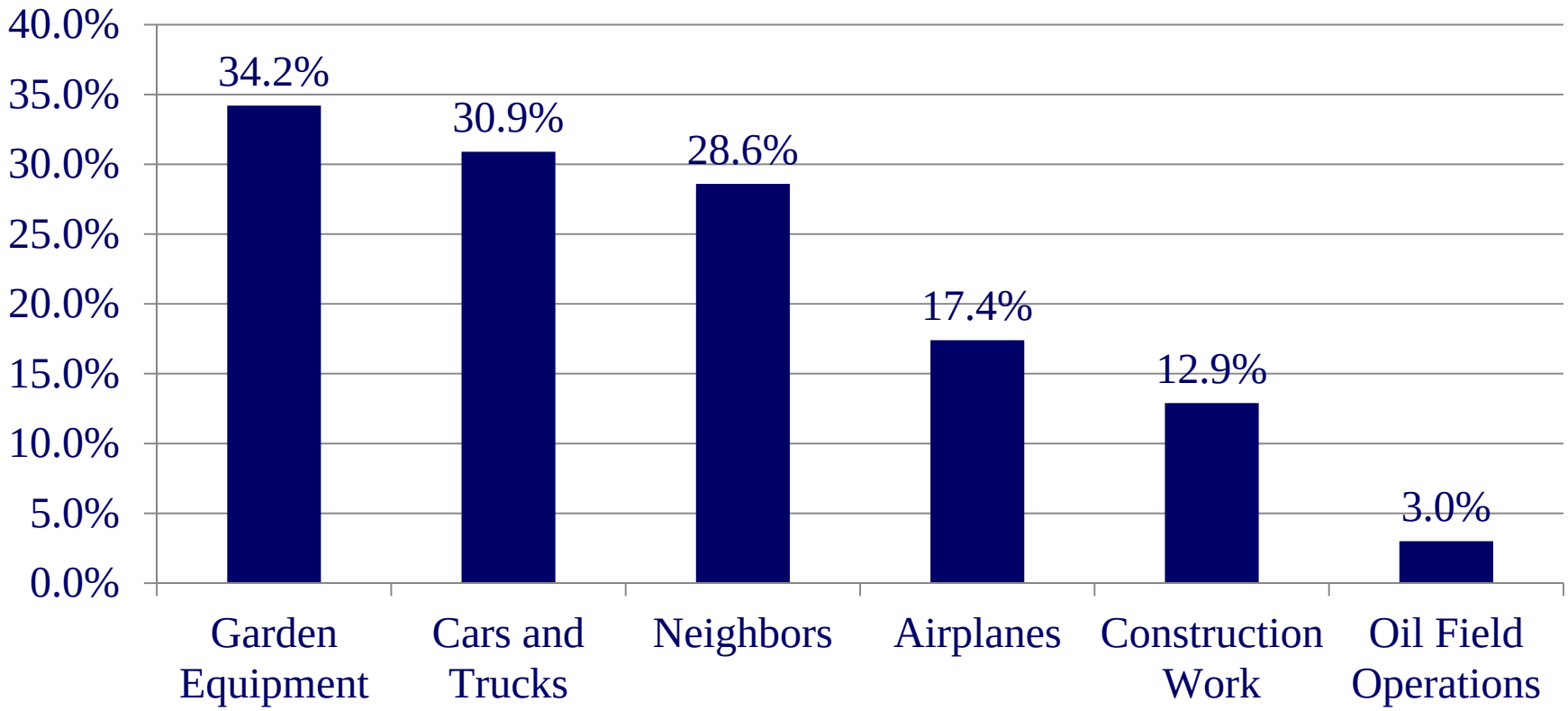
Odors by Proximity to IOF

	Census Tracts Adjacent	Census Tracts Not Adjacent
Have you noticed any offensive odor in your neighborhood or while outdoors at your home?		
Yes, related to the oil field	**8.6%***	**2.4%***
Yes, but don't know if related	3.0%*	2.0%*
Yes, but not related to the oil field	9.2%*	10.8%
No	79.2%	84.8%

*Unstable estimate based on small numbers of individuals

Noise

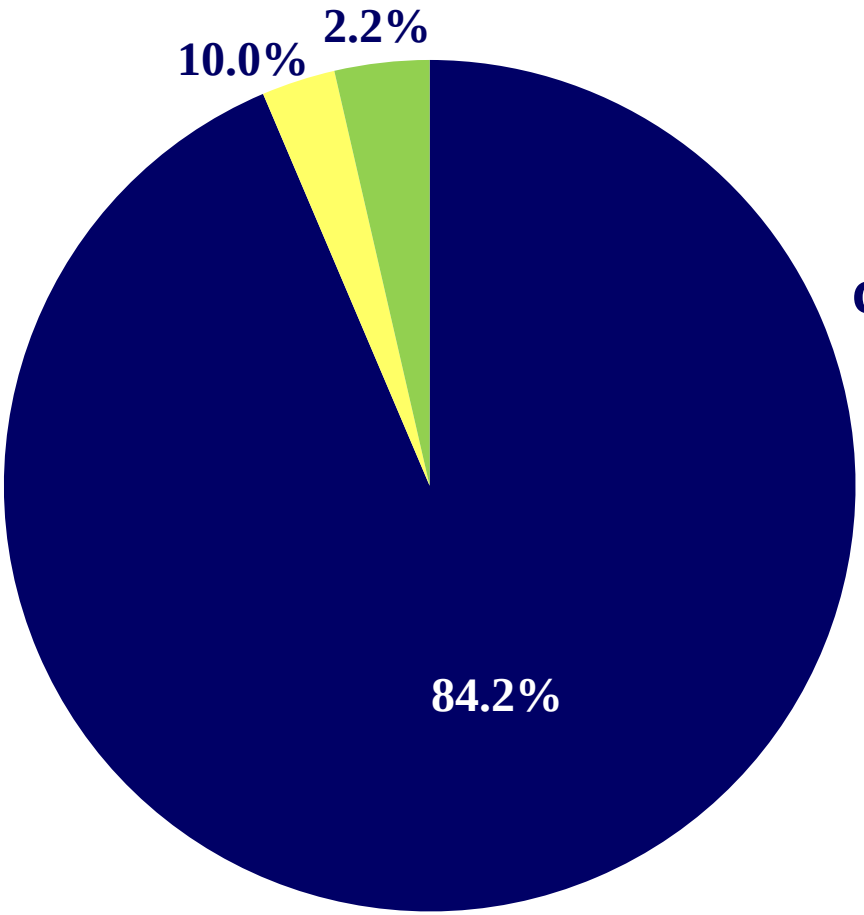

40.0%
35.0%
30.0%
25.0%
20.0%
15.0%
10.0%
5.0%
0.0%
34.2%
30.9%
28.6%
17.4%
12.9%
3.0%
Garden Equipment
Cars and Trucks
Neighbors
Airplanes
Construction Work
Oil Field Operations

Noise by Proximity to IOF

	Census Tracts Adjacent	Census Tracts Not Adjacent
How much has noise from oil field operations bothered you?		
A great deal	1.1%*	1.3%*
Somewhat	1.8%*	1.9%*
Little	9.4%*	4.2%
None	87.8%	92.5%

*Unstable estimate based on small numbers of individuals

Vibrations



In the past six months, have you felt ground vibrations in your home that you believe were coming from oil field operations?

- No
- Don't Know
- Yes

Conclusion

- Health outcomes were similar between IOF communities and LA County as a whole
- Racial/ethnic disparities in health among LA County residents were also found in the IOF communities
- Surveys such as this are not designed to establish causal relationships

Other Activities

- Noise monitoring
- Monitoring of oil field operations
- Air Quality Monitoring Study
  - LA County Dept Regional Planning is hiring a contractor
  - Quantify toxic air emissions from IOF operations
  - Determine IOF's contribution to air quality vs. other sources in the surrounding area
  - Provide data to assess potential health risks of both acute and chronic exposure

Toxics Epidemiology Program

http://www.lapublichealth.org/tox

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