

Patient Demographics Report

Tulare Local Healthcare District Resident Population

Executive Summary

The Tulare Local Healthcare District serves a young, majority-Hispanic/Latino population with significant bilingual and socioeconomic access considerations. Based on the District's 2020 redistricting data, the resident population inside the District boundaries was **88,246**, up from **79,078 in 2010**, an increase of **9,168 residents, or 11.6%**. Hispanic/Latino residents represented **65.3%** of the District population, and residents under age 18 represented about **30.8%** of the population.

The District's boundary map shows the service area centered on the City of Tulare and extending into surrounding rural communities and agricultural areas, including areas around Waukena, Tipton, and Pixley. The boundary does not perfectly match a single Census geography, so the most reliable District-specific data is the 2020 TLHD redistricting dataset; more current socioeconomic and health-access indicators are best read using Tulare city and Tulare County as supporting context.

1. Resident Population

Measure	2010	2020	Change
Total District population	79,078	88,246	+9,168 / +11.6%

The District grew materially between 2010 and 2020. That matters for facility planning, access planning, outreach, and future community-benefit priorities. Growth was not just numeric; the demographic mix also shifted, especially with growth in the Hispanic/Latino population.

2. Race and Ethnicity — District Residents

Group	2020 Population	Share of District
Hispanic/Latino	57,630	65.3%
White	23,969	27.2%
Black / African American	1,969	2.2%
American Indian / Alaska Native	424	0.5%
Asian	1,693	1.9%
Native Hawaiian / Pacific Islander	65	0.1%

Group	2020 Population	Share of District
Other	481	0.5%
Two or More Races	2,015	2.3%
Total	88,246	100%

The clear planning takeaway: TLHD serves a **predominantly Hispanic/Latino community**, and any serious patient-facing strategy should assume a need for Spanish-language communication, culturally competent outreach, and family-centered access. That is not “nice to have”; it is table stakes.

3. Age Profile

Age Group	District Population	Share
Under 18	27,167	30.8%
Age 18 and older	61,079	69.2%
Total	88,246	100%

The District-specific redistricting data reports total population and age 18+ population. Subtracting adults from total population gives an estimated **27,167 residents under age 18**. This confirms TLHD has a younger-than-average service population, which should influence planning for pediatrics, family medicine, maternal health, school-linked outreach, immunization, behavioral health, and prevention.

For additional context, the City of Tulare’s 2020–2024 Census QuickFacts profile shows **32.0% under age 18, 9.4% age 65+, and 51.4% female**. Tulare County overall is **29.0% under age 18 and 12.4% age 65+**. The District likely sits between the city and county profile, though exact District-specific senior population would require a Census block-level boundary overlay.

4. Language, Culture, and Communication

Tulare city and Tulare County both show very high rates of non-English language use at home: **50.1%** of Tulare city residents age 5+ and **50.2%** of Tulare County residents age 5+ speak a language other than English at home. This strongly supports bilingual access planning, especially Spanish-language signage, website content, consent and patient education materials, public meeting outreach, and community health messaging.

Foreign-born residents also represent a meaningful share of the local population: **20.9%** in Tulare city and **22.2%** in Tulare County. This points to the need for culturally competent

outreach, plain-language explanations of available services, and careful attention to eligibility, trust, transportation, and documentation concerns that often affect access to care.

5. Income, Poverty, Education, and Access Risk

Indicator	Tulare City	Tulare County
Median household income	\$72,410	\$71,300
Per capita income	\$27,801	\$28,185
Persons in poverty	17.9%	19.9%
High school graduate or higher, age 25+	76.0%	74.8%
Bachelor's degree or higher, age 25+	11.8%	16.6%
No health insurance, under age 65	11.0%	9.5%
Disability, under age 65	10.6%	9.1%

These figures point to a population with meaningful social-risk factors: relatively high poverty, lower educational attainment compared with statewide averages, substantial uninsured exposure, and a significant disabled under-65 population. In practical terms, that means outreach cannot rely only on online notices, English-only messaging, or “come to us” models. The old-fashioned community presence still matters — churches, schools, employers, clinics, local nonprofits, and neighborhood-level communication.

6. Medi-Cal Dependence

Tulare County has very high Medi-Cal coverage dependence. DHCS reported that, as of January 2026, Tulare County had **283,229 Medi-Cal certified eligibles** out of a projected population of **484,220**, a penetration rate of **58.5%**. Among children ages 0–18, the Medi-Cal rate was **74.0%**; among adults 19 and older, it was **51.6%**.

That is a big deal. For TLHD planning, Medi-Cal is not a side issue; it is central to the local healthcare economy. Any service strategy, partnership model, grant strategy, or facility planning effort should assume that Medi-Cal access, managed care relationships, transportation, and safety-net coordination are core business issues.

7. Planning Implications for TLHD

Primary care and prevention should be front and center. The District population is young, family-heavy, and majority Hispanic/Latino. That points toward family medicine, pediatrics,

women's health, chronic disease screening, immunizations, diabetes prevention, obesity prevention, and culturally appropriate health education.

Spanish-language access is essential. With roughly half of Tulare city and county residents speaking a language other than English at home, bilingual outreach should be a standard operating expectation, not a special project.

Maternal, child, and adolescent health deserve priority. About **31%** of District residents are under 18. That supports investment in school partnerships, youth behavioral health, maternal-child health education, and family-centered service navigation.

Medi-Cal strategy is critical. Countywide Medi-Cal penetration of **58.5%** means the District's residents are heavily tied to public coverage. TLHD should treat Medi-Cal policy, managed care partnerships, clinic access, and safety-net capacity as strategic infrastructure.

Transportation and rural access matter. The District boundary includes rural/agricultural areas beyond the City of Tulare. Patients in those areas may face transportation, work-schedule, broadband, language, and trust barriers. Outreach that only works for city residents will miss part of the population.

8. Data Limitations

The most precise District-specific dataset located is TLHD's 2020 redistricting demographic data. More current Census QuickFacts data is available for Tulare city and Tulare County, but not automatically for the exact healthcare district boundary. Because special district boundaries do not always line up neatly with Census places, a fully current District-only demographic report would require the District's GIS boundary file and a Census block/block-group overlay.