Title: The Association between the Social Vulnerability Index and Access to California High

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

Stephanie Kliethermes, PhD,4,5

Associate Research Professor

Downloaded from https://prime-pdf-watermark.prime-prod.pubfactory.com/ at 2025-06-17 via free access

- 27 kliethermes@ortho.wisc.edu
- 28
- 29 Anthony Luke, MD, MPH,^{1,2,6}
- 30 Professor of Clinical Orthopaedics
- 31 Benioff Distinguished Professor in Sports Medicine
- 32 Director, UCSF Human Performance Center
- 33 <u>anthony.luke@ucsf.edu</u>
- 34
- 35 William Berrigan, MD,¹
- 36 Assistant Professor of Clinical Orthopaedic Surgery
- 37 <u>bill.berrigan@ucsf.edu</u>
- 38
- 39 Nicolas Hatamiya, DO,^{1,2}
- 40 Assistant Professor of Clinical Orthopaedic Surgery
- 41 <u>nicolas.hatamiya@ucsf.edu</u>
- 42
- 43
- 44
- 45
- 46
- 10
- 47
- 48
- 49
- 50
- -
- 51
- 52

53	
54	
55	
56	
57	
58	
59	
60	
61	
62	
63	
64	
65	
66	
67	
68	
69	Title: The Association between the Social Vulnerability Index and Access to California
70	High School Athletic Trainers
71	
72	
73	Abstract:
74	Context: Social determinants of health are known to affect overall access to youth sports,
75	however, it is not fully understood how multiple social determinants of health may impact access

76 to school-based athletic training services.

- 77 **Objective:** To determine the relationship between Social Vulnerability Index (SVI) scores on
- 78 access to high school-based athletic trainers in California
- 79 Design: Retrospective, cross-sectional study
- 80 Setting: Online survey
- 81 Patients or Other Participants: California Interscholastic Federation (CIF) high school
- 82 respondents of the 2022-23 Participation Census
- 83 Main Outcome Measures: Association between Social Vulnerability Index scores and access
- 84 to school-based athletic trainer services
- 85 Methods: This study uses data from CIF high school respondents of the 2022-23 Participation
- 86 Census. School addresses were used to extract SVI scores from the U.S. Census Bureau.
- 87 Separate multivariable logistic regressions and generalized linear mixed effects models
- 88 assessed the relationships between access to school-based athletic training services and SVI
- 89 scores at the census and county levels.
- 90 **Results:** There were 1,598 respondent schools (65% public, 24% private, and 11% charter).
- 91 49% of schools reported having an athletic trainer, of which 41% were certified. Adjusted
- 92 analyses revealed that increased vulnerability in household characteristics was associated with
- 93 lower odds of access to athletic trainers and certified athletic trainers at both county (OR: 0.89
- 94 (95% CI: 0.80, 0.99); p = .04) and census tract levels (OR: 0.93 (95% CI: 0.89, 0.97); p = .002).
- 95 Increased vulnerability in socioeconomic status was associated with lower odds of having an
- 96 certified athletic trainer at the census tract level (OR: 0.94 (95% CI: 0.89, 0.98); p = .006), but
- 97 not the county level (p = .16).
- 98 Conclusions: Increased vulnerability in household characteristics is associated with decreased
 99 odds of access to high school-based athletic training services.

101

102

103 Abstract word count: 289 104 Body of manuscript word count: 3934 105 Key points: 106 1. The majority of California Interscholastic Federation (CIF) high schools do not have a 107 certified athletic trainer on staff. 108 2. Increased numbers of elderly and pediatric household members, individuals with 109 disabilities, single-parent households, and poor English language proficiency are 110 associated with decreased odds of access to school-based athletic training services. 111 3. Lower socioeconomic status and increased vulnerability in housing type and 112 transportation at the census tract level are also associated with reduced odds of access 113 to school-based athletic training services. 114 115 Athletic trainers (ATs) serve a crucial role in caring for athletes as they are frequently the first to 116 assess and treat injured athletes. However, availability of ATs in California high school-based 117 settings is inconsistent as no mandates exist to require the presence of ATs in schools. Despite 118 having the second largest number of high school athletes in the U.S. at around 763,000, 119 California is the only state which lacks regulations and licensure for ATs.¹ Prior research 120 revealed that over 54,000 student athletes in California received care from an ungualified health 121 personnel serving in the role of an AT.¹ Efforts to protect youth athletes through athletic training 122 licensure have been attempted in the past through bills proposed to the California state

Key words: Youth sports: Health care access: School-based athletic trainer: Social

determinants of health; Health inequities

123 legislature; however, none have been implemented to-date.² The lack of licensure regulation for 124 ATs in California directly impacts the availability and quality of care for high school athletes. In 125 areas with fewer resources or less access to gualified health professionals, student athletes 126 may receive inadequate care from untrained or uncertified individuals who call themselves 127 "athletic trainers." Marginalized communities and under-resourced schools are more likely to 128 experience gaps in access to gualified care, potentially contributing to health disparities and 129 worse health outcomes for student athletes. Although reasons for lack of ATs in the school 130 setting are varied, literature suggests that the presence of a school-based AT may help to 131 mitigate the effects of the social determinants of health (SDoH) on athlete health and wellbeing.³⁻⁷ SDoH are factors that can influence one's health, such as policies and laws, 132 133 geographic location, the built environment (e.g., sidewalks, open spaces), race, socioeconomic 134 status, as well as access to education, nutritious foods, physical activity opportunities, and healthcare.8 135

136

A growing body of evidence reveals inequitable SDoH exists for athletes, which can lead to health disparities among different populations. One study found that Black athletes are less knowledgeable about concussion symptoms than their White counterparts, which may delay access to appropriate treatment and subsequent return to sports.⁹ Prior work has also identified inequities in access to surgical care for those who have been injured. Pediatric athletes who were Black, Hispanic, or publicly insured are more likely to experience a greater delay to surgery after an anterior cruciate ligament rupture when compared to their counterparts.¹⁰

Evaluating AT access in the context of SDoH is important because it affects how sports-related injuries are evaluated and managed. For example, among racial minorities, the presence of ATs have been associated with increased athlete knowledge about concussion, as well as increased survival after sudden cardiac arrest.^{7,9,11,12} Although SDoH are known to affect overall access to youth sports, the role of SDoH on access to school-based athletic training services has not beenfully elucidated.

150 Prior studies examining the relationship between SDoH and school-based athletic training 151 access did not take into account the intersectionality of SDoH.^{4,5} Intersectionality is a theoretical 152 framework that examines how different parts of a person's identity can work together to create 153 advantages and/or challenges experienced on the individual level, as well as reflect the systems 154 of power and marginalization that exist at the larger macro societal level.¹³ Studying 155 intersectionality is crucial when examining SDoH because it acknowledges the complex realities 156 of everyday life and helps to explain how multiple factors interact to shape health outcomes. 157 Some individuals may hold multiple identities – such as low socioeconomic status, racial 158 minority, and female - that compound and can ultimately lead to health inequities and 159 disparities. While no metric is perfect at capturing the nuances of intersectionality, the Centers 160 for Disease Control and Prevention/ Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry's 161 (CDC/ATSDR's) Social Vulnerability Index (SVI) provides an opportunity to assess multiple 162 SDoH all at once. The SVI was originally created to help public health officials and local 163 planners better prepare for and respond to emergency events like hurricanes and disease 164 outbreaks, and has also been applied to social ecological research. It is a measure of social 165 vulnerability that considers 16 U.S. Census variables across 4 domains: 1) racial & ethnic 166 minority status, 2) household characteristics, 3) socioeconomic status, and 4) housing type & 167 transportation (Appendix B).¹⁴ Through the lens of the social ecological model of health, a 168 theoretical framework which explains how factors in various layers of the environment interact 169 together and can influence one's health (Appendix A), we set our primary aim to evaluate the 170 association between county and census tract level SVI scores and California Interscholastic 171 Federation (CIF) high school access to school-based certified ATs and unverified trainers 172 (UTs).¹⁵ Our secondary aim was to describe the variability in SVI scores between and within

173 counties in California. We hypothesize that a higher overall SVI score and domain specific SVI
174 scores are associated with less access to school-based certified ATs and UTs.

175 <u>Methods</u>:

176 <u>Study Sample</u>:

177 Using the social ecological model as the theoretical framework, we conducted a retrospective 178 cross-sectional study using publicly available data. We utilized the state-based CDC/ATSDR's 179 SVI database to collect county and census tract level SVI scores within California.¹⁶ Given that 180 a single county can have large variations in SDoH and thus may not be representative of 181 individual schools, SVI scores were collected at both the county and census tract levels. Census 182 tracts are small, geographic areas used by the U.S. Census Bureau to analyze local patterns in 183 demographics, housing, health, and other social factors. Multiple census tracts exist within a 184 single county. The census tract level is the most granular level of data available from the SVI 185 database. The database is based on the U.S. Census Bureau's American Community Survey 186 data from 2020 as this was the most up-to-date data available. The CIF Participation Census is 187 an annual survey that collects information on its member schools.¹⁷ The 2022-23 CIF 188 Participation Census (Appendix C) was the most up-to-date data available and was used to 189 collect demographic information (e.g. name, address, school type) of individual high schools. Of 190 1,609 CIF member high schools in the 2022-23 academic year, 1,598 (99%) schools responded 191 to the annual Participation Census. We did not conduct an a priori power analysis since all 192 schools who responded to the 2022-23 Participation Census were included in this study. The 193 University of California, San Francisco Institutional Review Board approved our study.

194

195 Data collection

We extracted participating school names, the city of address for each school, school type(public, public/charter, or private), total student enrollment, total student athlete enrollment,

198 access to school-based UTs, and access to school-based certified ATs from the CIF census 199 database.¹⁷ We then manually cross referenced the school names and city of addresses with 200 the California Department of Education's online California School Directory and/or the school's website to determine the school's address. Subsequently, we used each school's address (or 201 202 geographic coordinates found on Google Maps when the address was inadequate) to match 203 each school to its corresponding county and census tract utilizing an online geocoder developed 204 by the U.S. Census Bureau.^{18,19} Then we matched each school to its corresponding county and 205 census tract level SVI scores using the state-based CDC/ATSDR's SVI database.¹⁴ The primary 206 outcomes of interest were: 1) access to school-based UTs, and 2) access to school-based 207 certified ATs. Secondary outcomes of interest included intercounty and intracounty variability in 208 SVI scores.

209

210 Statistical Approach:

211 We summarized demographic data using descriptive statistics with medians [interquartile 212 ranges] summarizing continuous variables and frequencies (%) summarizing categorical 213 variables. We built separate multivariable logistic regressions to assess the relationships 214 between census level SVI scores (overall and all SVI domains) and access to school-based UTs 215 and certified ATs. Then, we used generalized linear mixed effects models, with a binary 216 outcome and logit link, to assess the relationships between county level SVI scores (overall and 217 SVI domains) and access to school-based UTs and certified ATs. We included a random effect 218 for counties in these models to account for correlation among schools within the same county. 219 We adjusted all models for school enrollment size, total sport participation and school type. If a 220 school did not know whether an AT was on staff, we removed that school from analyses 221 involving AT as an outcome. We used coefficients of variation to assess intercounty and 222 intracounty variability in SVI scores. SAS version 9.4 (SAS Institutes, Cary, NC) was used for all 223 analyses and statistical significance was set a priori at α =0.05.

225 **Results**:

226 <u>Demographics</u>:

Based upon the CIF census data, of the 1,598 respondent schools, 65% were public, 24%

private, and 11% charter (Table 1). The median student enrollment per school was 928 students

[IQR: 327, 1817]. The median number of athletes per school was 460 [IQR: 174, 750]; however,

this number does not account for multisport athletes, thus the number of unique athletes may be

overcounted. 49% of high schools reported having an "athletic trainer" on staff, of which 41%

were certified ATs. The majority of high school-based ATs worked part-time (61%).

233

234 Association between SVI and UT on Staff:

235 When adjusted for school type, school enrollment size, and total sport participation, an

236 increased SVI score (indicating increased vulnerability) in household characteristics was

associated with lower odds of having a high school UT on staff at both county (OR: 0.89 (95%

238 CI: 0.80, 0.99); p = .04) and census tract levels (OR: 0.93 (95% CI: 0.89, 0.97); p = .002) (Table

239 2). Higher scores in socioeconomic status, racial and ethnic minority status, and housing type
240 and transportation were not significantly associated with access to high school UTs at both the
241 county and census tract levels. Increased overall SVI scores were associated with lower odds of

having a high school UT at the census tract level (OR: 0.95 (95% CI: 0.90, 0.99); p = .02), but

243 not the county level (p = .75).

244

245 Association between SVI and certified AT on Staff:

Using the same adjustments for analyses, increased socioeconomic status SVI scores were associated with lower odds of having a high school certified AT at the census tract level (OR: 0.94 (95% CI: 0.89, 0.98); p = .006), but not the county level (p = .16) (Table 2). A higher SVI score in household characteristics was associated with lower odds of having a high school levels (OR: 0.91 (95% CI: 0.87, 0.96); p < .001). Higher SVI scores in racial & ethnic minority status were not significantly associated with access to high school certified ATs at both the county and census tract levels. Increased vulnerability in housing type and transportation at the census tract level was associated with lower odds of having a high school certified AT (OR: 0.95 (95%CI: 0.91, 0.99); p = .02), but not at the county level (p = .73). Increased overall SVI scores were associated with lower odds of having a high school certified AT at the census tract level (OR: 0.92 (95% CI: 0.88, 0.97); p < .001), but not at the county level (p = .22). Intercounty and Intracounty Variability in SVI: Intercounty (between-county) variability was highest in household characteristics SVI scores,

and lowest in racial & ethnic minority status SVI scores (Table 3). Marin County has the greatest
 intracounty (within-county) variability in overall SVI score (Table 4, Figure 1).

certified AT on staff at both county (OR: 0.86 (95% CI: 0.77, 0.96); p = .009) and census tract

Discussion:

Access to high-quality youth sports includes the adequate staffing of athletic trainers, who are first-line triagers for injuries, recognize life-threatening medical conditions, and manage medical emergencies.²⁰ SDoH are known to affect overall access to youth sports, however, it is not fully understood how multiple SDoH, outside of socioeconomic status, may impact the access to school-based ATs.⁴ Additionally, there is a need for increased quality of health equity research methodologies which considers the assessment of multiple contributors and their impact on health disparities in sports and exercise medicine.²¹ Using the social ecological model of health as a theoretical framework and the SVI as a measure of multiple SDoH, we examined sixteen distinct SDoH and found differential access to athletic training services based on the geographical location of a school and certain SDoH affecting that region.

276 In our study, increased vulnerability in household characteristics (e.g. elderly and pediatric 277 household members, individuals with disabilities, single-parent households, and poor English 278 language proficiency) at both the county and census tract levels stood out as the primary SVI 279 domain associated with decreased access to school-based UTs and certified ATs. To our knowledge, this is a novel finding that has not been demonstrated in prior research. One 280 281 possible explanation is that immigrants in addition to racial and ethnic minority families 282 frequently live in multigenerational households to pool resources both in finances as well as 283 supervised care for dependents such as the elderly, children, and individuals with disabilities.²² 284 Due to the stretching of limited resources, parents in these settings may not advocate for ATs at 285 their school districts given that their efforts are spent elsewhere providing for the entire family. 286 Moreover, these parents may simply not be aware of the existence or value of ATs due to 287 language barriers. However, as household characteristics have not been previously studied in 288 research examining SDoH and their relationship to school-based AT access, drawing definitive 289 conclusions proves challenging. Our results also reveal that an increased overall vulnerability at 290 the census tract level is associated with decreased odds of access to both school-based UTs 291 and certified ATs. Given that the other SVI domains had variable association with access to 292 athletic training services, household characteristics may be the most influential driving force 293 behind overall social vulnerability. This underscores the importance of further research into 294 household characteristics as a crucial factor influencing access to school-based ATs.

295

At the more granular census tract level, our analysis revealed that lower odds of certified AT access was also associated with increased vulnerability in the socioeconomic status (SES) as well as housing type and transportation domains. Our findings are congruent with prior studies which demonstrated that decreased SES is associated with decreased AT access.^{1,23} For example, one cross-sectional study found that although access to ATs positively influenced student-athletes' health care, schools with lower SES had reduced access to AT services.⁴ The

302 researchers of this study used county median household income and percentage of students 303 eligible for free or reduced-price lunch as a proxy for SES. The disparities in funding for ATs in 304 California high schools, which are often not reimbursed by third-party payers like Medicaid or 305 commercial insurers, can be linked to the broader context of California's school funding evolution.^{24,25} While legislative changes like Serrano v. Priest and Proposition 13 have 306 307 addressed some financial disparities among school districts, ongoing inequalities driven by local 308 income variations and economic fluctuations persist.²⁵ Consequently, school districts frequently 309 prioritize resources for teacher and staff salaries over funding for athletics departments, possibly 310 relegating financial support for ATs to a lower priority.^{26,27} In addition to variations in school 311 funding, if parents or the community in which they live have low levels of educational attainment 312 and SES, then children are less likely to have access to youth sports, and more likely to drop 313 out of organized sport.^{23,28–30} This may be related to the increasing cost of youth sports, which 314 can become burdensome for those who have financial struggles.^{30,31} Reduced sport 315 participation may then also lead to reduced employment of ATs in school settings given the 316 decreased need for athletic training services. Mixed-method studies have also shown that lack 317 of awareness regarding the importance and impact of ATs may also contribute to AT understaffing.^{5,6} These factors ultimately lead school administrators to rely on coaches or other 318 medical providers, such as school nurses, to fulfill the duties of athletic trainers.^{5,6} Disparities in 319 320 funding for ATs in California's high schools, coupled with socioeconomic and educational 321 disparities within communities, highlight the ongoing challenges in ensuring equitable access to 322 sports healthcare professionals.

323

Housing type and transportation also has not yet been studied in relation to school-based AT access. However, our results could demonstrate the intersectionality of SDoH impacting access to school-based medical care for student athletes in resource-limited environments. A plausible explanation is that those who rely on public transit and live in multi-unit or mobile homes in

328 crowded spaces are more likely to have lower SES, which negatively impacts local school 329 funding and may result in even less distributed funds to athletic departments. Another possibility 330 is that the lack of private vehicles as a mode of transportation may serve as a barrier for youth 331 to attend practices and games, resulting in overall reduction in school sport participation and 332 therefore insufficient justification for school administrators to allocate funds to employ school-333 based athletic training services. Of note, limited transportation and housing insecurity have 334 previously been suggested as barriers to health as perceived by secondary school ATs.³² It is 335 unclear whether increased vulnerability in housing type and transportation is an independent 336 risk factor for decreased access to ATs in the school setting.

337

338 Race and ethnicity is one of the most-researched SDoH in sports medicine, and minority 339 ethnicities are often associated with poor health outcomes.²¹ It is often used as a proxy for other 340 SDoH and is thus at risk for being labeled inappropriately as a mediator for social vulnerability.²¹ 341 We did not find an association between racial and ethnic minority status and access to school-342 based UTs or certified ATs in our study. This is not to say that a relationship between the two 343 does not exist. A recently published study showed that California secondary schools without 344 access to ATs had a larger proportion of Hispanic or Latino as well as African American 345 students.³³ Contrary to previously documented inequitable access to health care affecting racial 346 and ethnic minorities, Barter et al. found that White-identifying populations experienced limited 347 access to AT services in public secondary schools.⁴ Of note, Barter et al.acknowledge they did 348 not include state level race or ethnicity demographics as part of their inclusion criteria, which 349 could have biased their results. In the context of our study, it may be that California is a more 350 racially and ethnically diverse state as compared to some of the states included in the Barter et 351 al. study, and therefore race and ethnicity as measured by the SVI played a lesser role with 352 regards to AT access. In addition, there could be other SDoH that may have influenced the 353 Barter et al. study findings on race, such as SES and geographic locations of secondary

354 schools. As previously mentioned, our results are similar to those of the Barter et al. study in 355 that lower access to AT services is associated with lower SES. Geographic location of 356 secondary schools has previously been linked to differential access to AT services, with those in 357 rural settings having decreased access to ATs.³⁴ It may be that the effects of race and ethnic 358 minority status on access to AT services are amplified when combined with a lower SES and 359 attending secondary school in a rural setting. This possibility emphasizes the importance to 360 evaluate multiple SDoH and to consider intersectionality when investigating access to ATs.

361

362 The SDoH-mediated differential access to athletic training services ultimately contributes to 363 health disparities among youth athletes. The contributing SDoH themes identified in this study -364 SES, housing type and transportation, and most importantly household characteristics -365 summarize the complex interplay of several SDoH which may affect access to school-based 366 ATs. Our study found that increased vulnerability in these factors is associated with reduced 367 access to athletic training services. However, it is in the communities that have the greatest 368 social vulnerability where the impact of athletic training services may be felt most profoundly. 369 Insufficient or nonexistent athletic training services can result in reduced prevention, as well as delayed or inadequate treatment, of injuries affecting high school student athletes. In contrast, 370 371 the presence of ATs may be a golden opportunity for increased access to overall healthcare. 372 ATs frequently function as the first, and often the only, point of contact that a student athlete has with the healthcare system.^{35,36} Moreover, ATs in the secondary school setting often serve roles 373 374 beyond what is typically expected. ATs are uniquely positioned to serve as health educators, 375 coordinators, advocates, and navigators for student athletes and their families.^{35–38} In these 376 roles, ATs have the potential to reduce the negative effects of SDoH. Focusing on the SDoH 377 identified in this study could aid in developing targeted interventions to increase access to 378 athletic training services in California high schools and to help vulnerable communities take a 379 step towards achieving health equity.³⁶

381

382

383 Limitations:

We cannot determine causality or temporality between independent and dependent variables due to the nature of a cross-sectional study design. There may also be other SDoH not captured in this study, such as access to primary care and food insecurity, that may impact access to an AT. Additionally, our study does not capture the nuances and unique experiences of each individual student athlete. As such, we forgo individual athlete demographics such as sexual orientation and presence of disability that may impact youth participation in sport.

390

Given that the CDC/ATSDR's SVI database is based on the U.S. Census Bureau's American
Community Survey results, the most granular level of data provided is at the census tract level.
The SVI scores at the county and census tract levels may not be representative of individual
schools. However, viewing data at these levels may help to identify regions where there may be
higher SVI scores in general, and thus help policymakers and researchers understand these
communities and target solutions.

397

The SVI database was based on the American Community Survey from 2020, whereas the CIF participation survey was from the 2022-2023 academic year. We wanted to use the most up-todate information available to reflect the current landscape of access to school-based athletic training services, but acknowledge that there are limitations in doing so given the difference in time points. Additionally, the CIF did not collect any survey data during the 2020-2021 academic year due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

405 There are also limitations in the instrument used to collect our primary outcomes. The CIF 406 Participation Census is a self-reporting instrument which depends on California high school 407 officials to accurately respond to each question. The subjective nature of these surveys may put 408 our study at risk of recall bias, with either overreporting or underreporting of the outcomes of 409 interest. However, the requirement for all CIF member schools to submit responses likely 410 stemmed from a motive to collect accurate data state-wide, and subsequently resulted in a large 411 sample of schools. Also, given that all participants are CIF member schools, this can subject our 412 research to selection bias. The instrument itself also has measurement issues as evidenced by 413 its double barreled question as well as an overlap in two of its available answer choices. 414 Subsequent iterations of this work should revise the instrument questions to improve validity of

- 415 responses.
- 416

417 **Future Directions**:

Future studies investigating the role of household characteristics as a social determinant of health in sports and exercise are warranted. Researchers can consider other SDoH not included in this study, as well as their intersectionality, to capture their impact on youth sports. Moreover, mixed methods can be utilized to elicit rich narratives from individual athletes. Finally, SDoH should also be investigated at a more granular level such as within census tracts. These research directions can help develop specific interventions to bridge health disparities.

424

425 **References:**

Post EG, Roos KG, Rivas S, Kasamatsu TM, Bennett J. Access to Athletic Trainer Services
 in California Secondary Schools. *J Athl Train*. 2019;54(12):1229-1236. doi:10.4085/1062 6050-268-19

429 2. California Assembly Bill 796. Accessed July 2023.

Downloaded from https://prime-pdf-watermark.prime-prod.pubfactory.com/ at 2025-06-17 via free access

- 430 https://legiscan.com/CA/text/AB796/id/2833018
- 431 3. Wallace J, Hou BQ, Hajdu K, et al. Health Care Navigation of Black and White Adolescents
- 432 After Sport-Related Concussion: A Path Toward Health Equity. *J Athl Train*.
- 433 2022;57(4):352-359. doi:10.4085/1062-6050-0330.21
- 434 4. Barter EW, Rivera MJ, Post EG, Games KE, Eberman LE. Differences in Access to Athletic
- 435 Trainers in Public Secondary Schools Based on Socioeconomic Status. *J Athl Train*.
- 436 2023;58(2):91-96. doi:10.4085/1062-6050-0240.21
- 437 5. Pike Lacy AM, Eason CM, Stearns RL, Casa DJ. Secondary School Administrators'
- 438 Knowledge and Perceptions of the Athletic Training Profession, Part II: Specific
- 439 Considerations for Principals. *J Athl Train*. 2021;56(9):1029-1036. doi:10.4085/55-20
- 440 6. Pike A, Pryor RR, Mazerolle SM, Stearns RL, Casa DJ. Athletic Trainer Services in US
- 441 Private Secondary Schools. J Athl Train. 2016;51(9):717-726. doi:10.4085/1062-6050-
- 442 51.11.04
- 443 7. Wallace J, Covassin T, Nogle S, Gould D, Kovan J. Concussion Knowledge and Reporting
- 444 Behavior Differences Between High School Athletes at Urban and Suburban High Schools.
- 445 J Sch Health. 2017;87(9):665-674. doi:10.1111/josh.12543
- 446 8. Social determinants of health. Accessed May 15, 2024.
- 447 https://health.gov/healthypeople/priority-areas/social-determinants-health
- 448 9. Wallace J, Covassin T, Moran R. Racial Disparities in Concussion Knowledge and
- 449 Symptom Recognition in American Adolescent Athletes. *J Racial Ethn Health Disparities*.
- 450 2018;5(1):221-228. doi:10.1007/s40615-017-0361-1
- 451 10. Bram JT, Talathi NS, Patel NM, DeFrancesco CJ, Striano BM, Ganley TJ. How Do Race

452		and Insurance Status Affect the Care of Pediatric Anterior Cruciate Ligament Injuries? Clin
453		J Sport Med. 2020;30(6):e201-e206. doi:10.1097/JSM.00000000000000706
454	11.	Drezner JA, Peterson DF, Siebert DM, et al. Survival After Exercise-Related Sudden
455		Cardiac Arrest in Young Athletes: Can We Do Better? Sports Health. 2019;11(1):91-98.
456		doi:10.1177/1941738118799084
457	12.	Schattenkerk J, Kucera K, Peterson DF, Huggins RA, Drezner JA. Socioeconomic factors
458		and outcomes from exercise-related sudden cardiac arrest in high school student-athletes
459		in the USA. Br J Sports Med. 2022;56(3):138-143. doi:10.1136/bjsports-2021-104486
460	13.	Alvidrez J, Greenwood GL, Johnson TL, Parker KL. Intersectionality in public health
461		research: A view from the national institutes of health. Am J Public Health. 2021;111(1):95-
462		97. doi:10.2105/AJPH.2020.305986
463	14.	CDC/ATSDR SVI Data and Documentation. March 29, 2024. Accessed May 15, 2024.
464		https://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/placeandhealth/svi/data_documentation_download.html
465	15.	Center for Disease Control Agency For Toxic Substances & Disease Registry. Principles of
466		community engagement. NIH publication no 11-7782. Published online 2011.
467	16.	CDC SVI documentation 2020. October 28, 2022. Accessed May 15, 2024.
468		https://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/placeandhealth/svi/documentation/SVI_documentation_2020.htm
469		I
470	17.	Participation census - California interscholastic federation. Accessed May 15, 2024.
471		https://www.cifstate.org/coaches-admin/census/index

- 472 18. Census Geocoder Coordinates. Accessed May 15, 2024.
- 473 https://geocoding.geo.census.gov/geocoder/geographies/coordinates?form

- 474 19. Census Geocoder Address. Accessed May 15, 2024.
- 475 https://geocoding.geo.census.gov/geocoder/geographies/onelineaddress
- 476 20. Pryor RR, Casa DJ, Vandermark LW, et al. Athletic training services in public secondary
- 477 schools: a benchmark study. J Athl Train. 2015;50(2):156-162. doi:10.4085/1062-6050-
- 478 50.2.03
- 21. Kliethermes SA, Asif IM, Blauwet C, et al. Focus areas and methodological characteristics
- 480 of North American-based health disparity research in sports medicine: a scoping review. *Br*
- 481 J Sports Med. 2024;58(3):164-171. doi:10.1136/bjsports-2023-107607
- 482 22. Pew Research Center. Financial Issues Top the List of Reasons U.S. Adults Live in
- 483 Multigenerational Homes. https://www.pewresearch.org/social-trends/2022/03/24/financial-
- 484 issues-top-the-list-of-reasons-u-s-adults-live-in-multigenerational-homes/.
- 485 23. Kroshus E, Sonnen AJ, Chrisman SP, Rivara FP. Association between community
- 486 socioeconomic characteristics and access to youth flag football. *Inj Prev.* 2019;25(4):278-
- 487 282. doi:10.1136/injuryprev-2017-042677
- 488 24. Li T, Norcross MF, Johnson ST, Koester MC. Cost-Benefit of Hiring Athletic Trainers in
- 489 Oregon High Schools From 2011–2014. *J Athl Train*. 2019;54(2):165-169.
- 490 doi:10.4085/1062-6050-390-17
- 491 25. Los Angeles Unified School District. 2019-20 Superintendent's Final Budget: How
- 492 Education Is Funded in California. Accessed May 30, 2024.
- 493 https://www.lausd.org/cms/lib/CA01000043/Centricity/Domain/123/05_How%20Education%
- 494 20is%20Funded%20in%20California.pdf
- 495 26. California Budget Project. How Do California Schools Get And Spend Their Money? May
- 496 2012. Accessed May 30, 2024.

- 497 https://calbudgetcenter.org/app/uploads/120523_Education_Funding_PB.pdf
- 498 27. Mazerolle SM, Raso SR, Pagnotta KD, Stearns RL, Casa DJ. Athletic directors' barriers to
- 499 hiring athletic trainers in high schools. *J Athl Train*. 2015;50(10):1059-1068.
- 500 doi:10.4085/1062-6050-50.10.01
- 501 28. Vella SA, Cliff DP, Okely AD. Socio-ecological predictors of participation and dropout in
- 502 organised sports during childhood. *Int J Behav Nutr Phys Act.* 2014;11:62.
- 503 doi:10.1186/1479-5868-11-62
- 29. Ke Y, Shi L, Peng L, Chen S, Hong J, Liu Y. Associations between socioeconomic status
- and physical activity: A cross-sectional analysis of Chinese children and adolescents. *Front*
- 506 *Psychol.* 2022;13:904506. doi:10.3389/fpsyg.2022.904506
- 30. Kuhn AW, Grusky AZ, Cash CR, Churchwell AL, Diamond AB. Disparities and Inequities in
- 508 Youth Sports. *Curr Sports Med Rep.* 2021;20(9):494-498.
- 509 doi:10.1249/JSR.00000000000881
- 510 31. Pandya NK. Disparities in Youth Sports and Barriers to Participation. Curr Rev
- 511 *Musculoskelet Med.* 2021;14(6):441-446. doi:10.1007/s12178-021-09716-5
- 512 32. Beaupre J, Meske SW, Buckley M. Athletic trainer-reported prevalence of mental health,
- 513 substance use, and barriers to health in secondary schools. J Athl Train. 2022;57(2):140-
- 514 147. doi:10.4085/1062-6050-0359.19
- 515 33. Eason CM, Goble SE, Post EG, Huggins RA, Casa DJ, Stearns RL. Factors Influencing
- 516 Athletic Training Services in California Secondary Schools: A Five- Year Update. J Athl
- 517 *Train*. Published online June 5, 2024. doi:10.4085/1062-6050-0187.24
- 518 34. Suzuki-Yamanaka M, Huggins RA, Armstrong KJ, Coleman KA, Casa DJ, Kaneoka K.

- 519 Athletic training employment in US secondary schools by geographic setting and school
- 520 size. J Athl Train. 2021;56(9):1010-1017. doi:10.4085/109-20
- 35. Harris NA, Odai ML. The role of Title 1 secondary school athletic trainers in the primary and
 patient-centered care of low socioeconomic adolescents. *Int J Environ Res Public Health*.
 2023;20(7). doi:10.3390/ijerph20075411
- 36. Picha KJ, Welch Bacon CE, Normore C, Snyder Valier AR. Social determinants of health:
 Considerations for athletic health care. *J Athl Train*. 2022;57(6):521-531. doi:10.4085/10626050-0010.21
- 527 37. Hernandez MI, Miller EC, Biese KM, et al. Secondary school athletic trainers' navigation of
 528 patient socioeconomic status challenges in care: A qualitative study. *Int J Environ Res*
- 529 *Public Health*. 2022;19(24):16709. doi:10.3390/ijerph192416709
- 530 38. Stanton BM, Rivera MJ, Winkelmann ZK, Eberman LE. Support systems and patient care
- 531 delivery for nonnative English-speaking patients: A study of secondary school athletic
- 532 trainers. J Athl Train. 2022;57(2):148-157. doi:10.4085/1062-6050-0181.21

534 Acknowledgements

535 The authors acknowledge the California Interscholastic Federation (CIF) for providing their

- 536 survey data for use in this research, Katerina Bernabe for her assistance in data collection, as
- 537 well as the AMSSM Collaborative Research Network (CRN) for their methodological and
- 538 statistical support.

539

540 **Tables**:

542 Table 1: Descriptive Statistics of School Characteristics

543

Variable	N(%) or median[IQR]
School type	
Charter	183 (11%)
Private	380 (24%)
Public	1035 (65%)
Students enrolled 2022-2023, per school	928 [327, 1817]
Number of athletes, per school*	460 [174, 750]
UT on staff	781 (49%)
Certified AT on staff**	
Yes	662 (41%)
No	887 (55%)
l don't know	48 (3%)
AT hours*	
0-10 hrs/wk	80 (10%)
11-20 hrs/wk	108 (14%)
21-30 hrs/wk	117 (15%)
31+ hrs/wk	175 (22%)
Full-time	301 (39%)

544 *Note: multiple sport athletes are not accounted for in this number, thus these counts may

545 overestimate the number of unique athletes per school

546 **Schools that indicated no UT on staff were automatically coded to "No" AT on staff

547

548 Table 2: Association between SVI and Access to an UT and Certified AT on Staff ^t

		Downloaded from https://prime-pdf-watermark.prime-prod.pubfactory.com/ at 2025-06-17 via free acce
		SSG

	Adjusted for UT**		Adjusted for Certified			
			AT**			
County SVI themes ^t	OR (95% CI)*	p-value	OR (95% CI)*	p-value		
Socioeconomic status	0.98 (0.88, 1.09)	0.69	0.92 (0.83, 1.03)	0.16		
Household characteristics	0.89 (0.80, 0.99)	0.04	0.86 (0.77, 0.96)	0.009		
Racial & ethnic minority	1.04 (0.92, 1.17)	0.56	1.03 (0.90, 1.17)	0.67		
status						
Housing type &	1.06 (0.95, 1.19)	0.31	1.02 (0.90, 1.16)	0.73		
transportation						
Overall SVI percentile	0.98 (0.88, 1.10)	0.75	0.93 (0.83, 1.04)	0.22		
ranking						
Census tract SVI themes						
Socioeconomic status	0.97 (0.92, 1.01)	0.16	0.94 (0.89, 0.98)	0.006		
Household characteristics	0.93 (0.89, 0.97)	0.002	0.91 (0.87, 0.96)	<0.001		
Racial & ethnic minority	0.98 (0.93, 1.02)	0.34	0.98 (0.94, 1.03)	0.51		
status						
Housing type &	0.96 (0.92, 1.01)	0.11	0.95 (0.91, 0.99)	0.02		
transportation						
Overall SVI percentile	0.95 (0.90, 0.99)	0.02	0.92 (0.88, 0.97)	<0.001		
ranking						

 $^{+}$ If AT status unknown then removed from analysis (n=48)

551 *Unit increase is 10% on vulnerability index

552 **Adjusted analyses controlled for school enrollment size, total sport participation and school

553 type

554 t A random effect for county was included in all models involving county SVI themes

555

556 Table 3: Intercounty Variability Assessed via Coefficient of Variation (CV) for Each

557 County Level SVI Theme

558

County SVI themes	CV estimate
Socioeconomic status	55.74
Household characteristics	56.08
Racial & ethnic minority status	31.93
Housing type & transportation	41.56
Overall SVI percentile ranking	47.23

559

560 **Table 4: Intracounty Variability Assessed via Coefficient of Variation for Census Tract**

561 Level Overall SVI Score

County	Overall SVI census tract
Alameda	59.49
Amador	35.41
Butte	21.10
Calaveras	19.67
Colusa	46.56
Contra Costa	75.09
Del Norte	0.00
El Dorado	56.59

Fresno	51.32
Glenn	14.64
Humboldt	42.20
Imperial	35.16
Inyo	28.62
Kern	47.05
Kings	34.50
Lake	21.98
Lassen	35.12
Los Angeles	49.07
Madera	38.79
Marin	81.38
Mariposa	
Mendocino	36.04
Merced	32.92
Modoc	66.90
Mono	0.118
Monterey	46.25
Napa	48.82
Nevada	71.79
Orange	57.38
Placer	77.99
Plumas	20.89
Riverside	52.94

Sacramento	60.44
San Benito	19.48
San Bernardino	46.87
San Diego	62.80
San Francisco	59.58
San Joaquin	45.23
San Luis Obispo	45.82
San Mateo	73.97
Santa Barbara	50.84
Santa Clara	65.21
Santa Cruz	48.74
Shasta	46.17
Sierra	0.00
Siskiyou	30.30
Solano	43.74
Sonoma	60.06
Stanislaus	40.51
Sutter	14.90
Tehama	11.44
Trinity	52.43
Tulare	41.87
Tuolumne	56.87
Ventura	60.75
Yolo	47.16

	Yuba	16.69	
563	L]
564			
565	Figures:		
566			

567 Figure 1: Heat Map of Intra-county Variability in Overall SVI scores



575 Appendix:



578

576

Overall Vulnerability



- 580 Appendix B: U.S. Census Variables Utilized in Calculating The Overall Social Vulnerability Index
- 581 (SVI) Score. Adapted with Permission from The CDC.

582 Appendix C: CIF Participation Census 2022-2023 Questions.

	More Information: <u>www.cifstate.org/coaches-admin/census</u>							
	TOTAL STUDENT ENROLLMENT: BOYS		GI	RLS				
	INSTRUCTIONS:							
1. 2.	Please provide figures for the total number of coaches across all the fall and softball in the spring, please count him/her as two coa "Boy Participants" and "Girl Participants" should be calculated bas length of time during the 2022-23 school year.	levels in your er aches. Addition sed upon the m	ntire athle ally, plea aximum r	tic program. I se separate y umber of indiv	Example, i our coach /iduals wh	f an indiv es into or o particip	idual coac -campus a ated in the	hes football in and off-campus. e sport for any
З.	"Boy Participants" and "Girl Participants" are representative of inte	"Boy Participants" and "Girl Participants" are representative of interscholastic athletics (NOT intramural or club.) Count a student for every sport in						
4. 5.	which he/she participates. Please provide figures for any of the listed sports offered by your high school, regardless of whether it is sanctioned by the CIF. If your high school includes only 10th through 12th grades, but 9th grade students participate on your high school's teams, please include their number in the participation figures.							
	ALL MALE COACHES (Head, Asst, Varsity, JV, Frosh)	ALL FEMAL	E COA	CHES (Head	, Asst, Va	arsity, J	V, Frosh)
	Total number of on-campus PAID Coaches	Total numbe	r of on-c	ampus PAID	Coaches	3		-
	Total number of on-campus UNPAID Coaches	Total numbe	r of on-c	ampus UNP	AID Coad	hes		-
	Total number of off-campus PAID Coaches	Total number of off-campus PAID Coaches						
Total number of off-campus UNPAID Coaches Total number off-campus UNPAID Coaches					_			
	Total number of Male Coaches Employed Total number of Female Coaches Employed							
١	Total number of MALE Head Coaches coaching FEMALE athlet	ic teams						
١	Total number of FEMALE Head Coaches coaching MALE athlet	ic teams						
/	Athletic Director is Male Female							
1	Athletic Director Position is Full-time Part Time							
[Do you have an Assistant Athletic Director Position (how many):						
ľ	Number of Release Periods for Athletic Director: N/A	0 1	2	3	4	5	6	
١	Years as High School Athletic Director: First Year	2-4 years		_ 5-9 years _		10 or	more	
[Do you have an athletic trainer on staff (hours per week)?	None 0-1	0 hrs	11-201	nrs	21-30	hrs	31-40 hrs
I	Is your athletic trainer ATC Certified? Yes No Don't	t Know N	'A					
ł	How many AEDs does your Athletic Department have access to dur	ring practice/eve	ents?					
F	First Day of School (m/d/y) Last Day of	f School		Gra	aduation I	Date		

PLEASE SUBMIT PARTICIPATION CENSUS TO CIF HOME BY April 7, 2023. THANK YOU.

SPORTS	Boy Participants	Girl Participants	Number of boy's teams	Number of girl's teams
			(Fr./So./JV/Varsity)	(Fr./So./JV/Varsity)
Badminton				
Baseball				
Basketball				
Beach Volleyball				
Cheer- Traditional Competitive				
Cheer- Competitive Sport				
Cross Country				
Esports				
Field Hockey				
Flag Football				
Football – 11 player				
Football – 8 player				
Golf				
Gymnastics				
Lacrosse				
Skiing - Alpine				
Skiing - Cross Ctry				
Snowboarding				
Soccer				
Softball				
Swimming & Diving				
Tennis				
Track & Field				
Volleyball				
Water Polo				
Wrestling				
Archery*				
Bowling*				
Cheer- Sideline*				
Crew*				
Cycling*				
Dance*				
Decathion*				
Drill Team*				
Equestrian*				
Fencing*				
Figure Skating*				
Football 6-player*				
loe Hockey*				
Judo*				

Kyaking*		
Martial Arts*		
Mountain Biking*		
Rifle*		
Rock Climbing*		
Rodeo*		
Roller Hockey*		
Rugby*		
Sailing"		
Slow Pitch Softball*		
Squash*		
Surfing*		
Ultimate Frisbee"		
Weightlifting*		
Adapted Basketball*		
Adapted Bowling*		
Adapted Cross County*		
Adapted Floor Hockey*		
Adapted Football*		
Adapted Golf*		
Adapted Soccer*		
Adapted Softball*		
Adapted Swim*		
Adapted Tennis*		
Adapted Track*		
Adapted Volleyball*		
Unified Basketball*		
Unified Bowling*		
Unified Cheer*		
Unified Cross Country*		
Unified Flag Football*		
Unified Golf*		
Unified Soccer#		
Unified Softball*		

Unified Tennis*		
Unified Track & Field*		
Unified Volleyball*		
Other*		

The National Federation of High School's would like to obtain information on the following activities. If possible please do the best you can.

NEHS ACTIVITIES	IOIAL
Band*	
Choir*	
Dance Team*	
Dance/Drill/Pom Pon*	
Debate/Forensics*	
Decathion*	
DRAMA*	
D ri ll Team*	
FBLA*	
FCCLA*	
FFA*	
Lincoln Douglas Debate*	
Math Team*	
Music*	
Newspaper [#]	
Orchestra*	
Pom Pon Squad*	
Speech*	
Student Council*	
Student Government*	
Theatre*	
Vocal ^a	
Yearbook"	