

# Indicators for a Sustainable San Mateo County

SEVENTEENTH ANNUAL REPORT • APRIL 2013



Sustainable  
San Mateo County  
Economy. Equity. Environment.

Sustainability: A Healthy Environment, Society, and Economy for the long term.



# Indicators for a Sustainable San Mateo County

## Seventeenth Annual Report • 2013

**E**stablished in 1992, Sustainable San Mateo County is dedicated to the long-term health and vitality of our region. Our mission is to stimulate community action on issues relating to sustainability by providing accurate, timely, and empowering information.



Sustainable  
San Mateo County  
Economy. Equity. Environment.

[www.sustainablesanmateo.org](http://www.sustainablesanmateo.org)

# Dedication



*The Ruth Peterson Award is Sustainable San Mateo County's highest honor and is awarded at the discretion of the Board of Directors to an individual who has contributed significantly to our mission. The inaugural award was presented on March 21, 2013 to Rosalyn Koo, a longtime supporter of SSMC.*

## **Ruth Peterson, 1933–2012**

Ruth Peterson, business owner and Chair Emeritus of Sustainable San Mateo County, passed away in June 2012 at the age of 79. Ruth's leadership, passion, and energy transformed SSMC into a respected nonprofit that helped to first bring sustainability issues to the forefront of local policy and planning efforts. For over 12 years, Ruth was an integral part of SSMC, holding numerous positions within the organization and leading the effort for SSMC to become a stand-alone nonprofit. She served as Chair of the Board from 2002–2009 and remained a Board Member until her passing.

Ruth attended the University of Southern California and then San Francisco State, where she graduated with a Master's Degree in English Literature and a teaching credential. After discovering she had an affinity for business, she decided to forego teaching. Over the years, Ruth held various positions in law office management and accounting, and in 1980, she started Bovet Professional Center, an executive suite for attorneys.

In addition to her work with SSMC, Ruth served on the Board of Directors for Shelter Network. In 2005, she was inducted into the San Mateo County Women's Hall of Fame, and in March 2012 she was recognized as an innovator in the county and given the David D. Bohannon Memorial Award by the San Mateo County Economic Development Agency (SAMCEDA).

Ruth was an inspirational leader to all of us here at SSMC, and we dedicate the 2013 Report to her. Our ongoing commitment to creating a more sustainable San Mateo County will be carried forth in her spirit.

# About this Report

*Indicators for a Sustainable San Mateo County* is published annually to provide fact-based information on local trends impacting our economy, environment, and society. Propelled by the philosophy “*what gets measured, gets managed,*” the Report presents indicators that raise awareness of sustainability in the county and improve our ability to make sound decisions for the benefit of future generations.

The indicators in this Report are used by governments, businesses, civic groups, and nonprofit organizations to set goals, measure progress towards achieving them, and prioritize the allocation of scarce resources. In addition to the indicators, the Report highlights success stories, showcases positive changes that local governments and businesses are making, and presents resources for individuals to take further action.

Each year, we feature a Key Indicator, which provides an in-depth look at a current issue that is critical to the long-term sustainability of San Mateo County. This year’s Key Indicator, Income Inequality, examines the widening income gap that is occurring locally and nationwide and how it affects other areas of sustainability.

This report would not be possible without our dedicated team of volunteers, each of whom contributed time and energy to help research, edit, and design the pages. We also thank the local experts who reviewed and commented on draft indicators. For a complete list of volunteers and contributors, please refer to the inside back cover.



*in·di·ca·tor* / 'indi,kātər /

Noun: A thing, especially a trend or fact that indicates the state or level of something.

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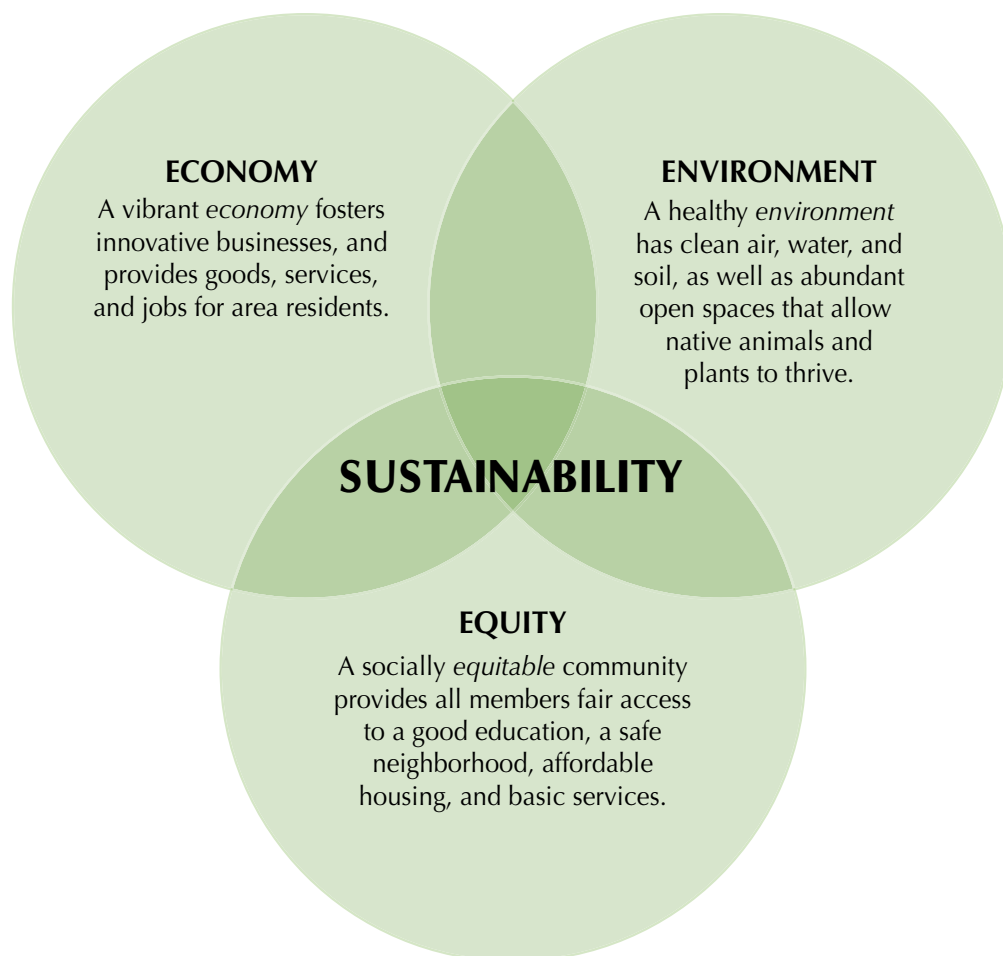
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# What is Sustainability?

*Living sustainably* means that we meet today's needs without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs.

*Sustainable planning* recognizes the connections between a vibrant economy, a socially equitable community, and a healthy environment.



# Key Indicator Income Inequality



Each year, we provide in-depth information on a topical issue critical to the long-term sustainability of the county. This year's key indicator, Income Inequality, focuses on the unequal distribution of income in San Mateo County.

*In a sustainable state, income distribution is at a level that supports a broad middle class and offers fair chances for upward mobility.*

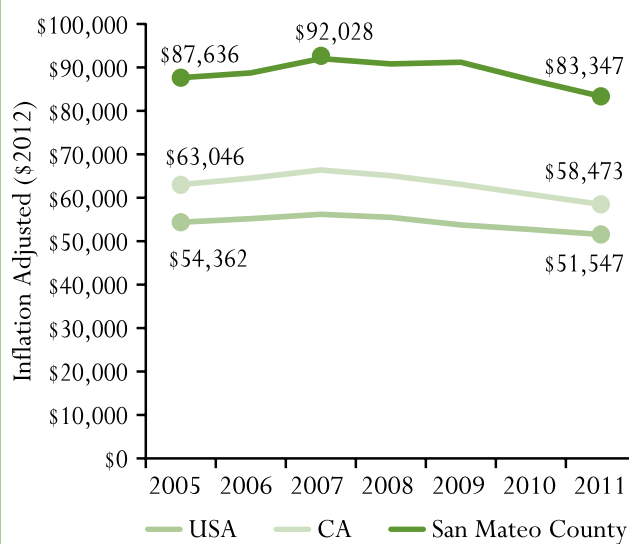
## Key Findings

- From 1979-2007, average household after-tax income (adjusted for inflation) in the U.S. increased 62%. These gains, however, were highly skewed with **the top 1% seeing household income rise by 275% compared with an 18% increase for the bottom 20% of earners**. In San Mateo County, the share of highest income households (\$200,000 and above) increased from 2006-2011, while the share of lower-earning households (\$99,000 and below) decreased.
- The Great Recession took a toll on earners at all distribution levels in California, with the bottom 10th percentile experiencing the sharpest drop in family income, a decline of 21% from 2007-2010. **In 2011, median household income in San Mateo County was 9% lower than in 2007.**
- While the gender income gap has declined considerably over the last 30 years, it still persists, with **male median personal income in San Mateo County 21% higher than female income.**
- The transformation to a knowledge economy has placed a premium on highly educated workers, resulting in a growing gap in income by educational attainment. **In San Mateo County, median personal income for college graduates is nearly three times higher than for those with less than a high school diploma.**

## The Income Achievement Gap

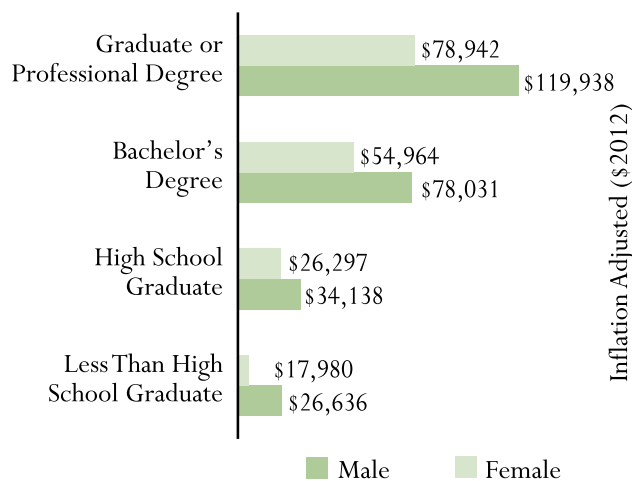
The income achievement gap in education has been growing over the last 30 years, and in San Mateo County it can clearly be seen in testing scores. Third grade language arts proficiency is one of the strongest predictors of future academic success as students who are not reading proficiently at this stage begin to fall behind in other areas. While 74% of San Mateo County students who are not economically disadvantaged scored proficient or higher on the latest English Language Arts/CST tests, only 34% of their peers who are economically disadvantaged achieved these scores.

Median Household Income, 2005-2011



Data Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey

Median Personal Income by Gender and Educational Attainment, San Mateo County, 2011



Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey



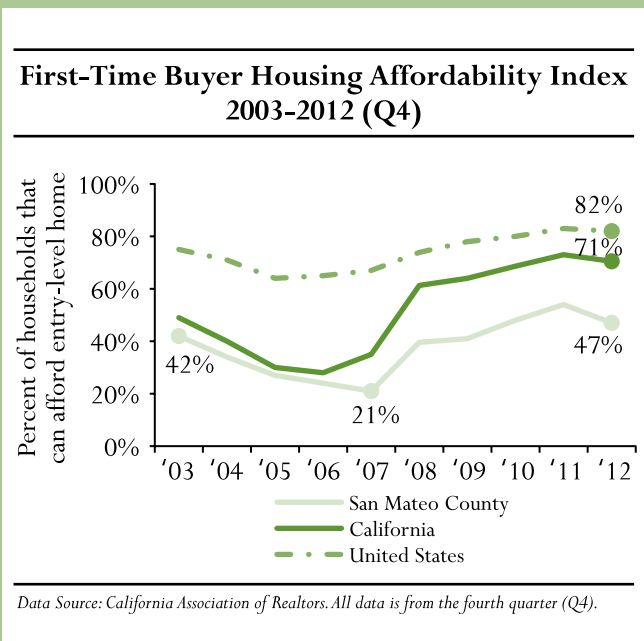
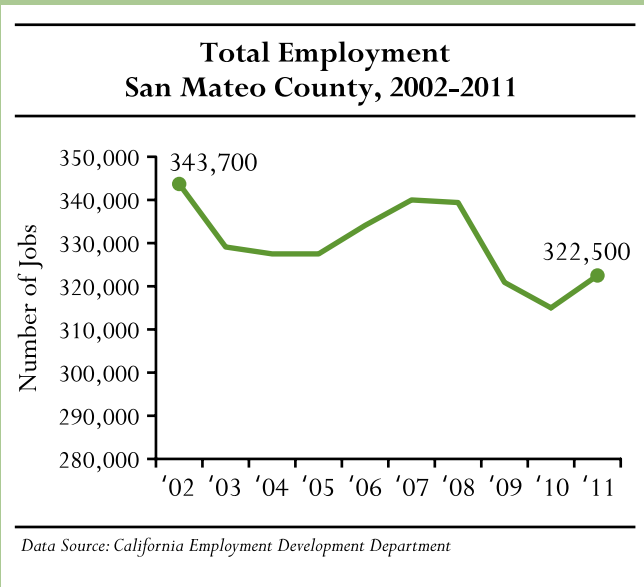


# Economy

*A vibrant economy fosters innovative businesses and provides goods, services, and jobs for area residents.*

## Key Findings

- In 2011, there were over 322,000 jobs in the county, an increase from the year prior, but 6% lower than 2002 levels. Despite recent job growth, county average weekly wages in 2011 declined from the year prior and are 14% below 2000 levels (adjusted for inflation). The two sectors with the highest percentage job growth over the last decade, Leisure & Hospitality and Education & Health, both have average weekly wages below the county average.
- San Mateo County has some of the highest housing costs in the nation, and the lack of affordable housing limits the ability of people to live in the county and reduces the availability of qualified workers for local jobs. As measured by the first time buyer housing affordability index, **only 47% of county households can afford an entry-level home, significantly below the rates for California (71%) and the United States (82%).**
- In 2012, the median sales price for a single family home in the county was just over \$740,000, a 6% increase from the year prior. Average rental prices are up nearly 20% over the last two years.
- Technological innovation is a key catalyst for growth in the region, and this growth is dependent on a highly-skilled workforce trained in the fields of science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM). **In San Mateo County, 14% of the workforce is employed in STEM-related fields compared with 5% for the U.S. and 6% for California.**



## STEM Education

Having workers trained in the fields of science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) is vital for continued innovation and economic growth, but our education system has not been able to keep up with the demand in this field. Only 33% of bachelor's degrees awarded in the U.S. are in STEM fields versus 53% for China and 63% for Japan. The STEM Center at Cañada College, which provides services and support for students pursuing education in STEM majors, is part of a growing national effort to educate more students in these fields. The center also offers collaborative space for study groups and STEM club meetings. For more information, visit [www.facebook.com/STEMCanadaCollege](http://www.facebook.com/STEMCanadaCollege).

# Equity



*A socially equitable community provides all members fair access to a good education, a safe neighborhood, and services that enable even the least affluent to meet their basic needs.*

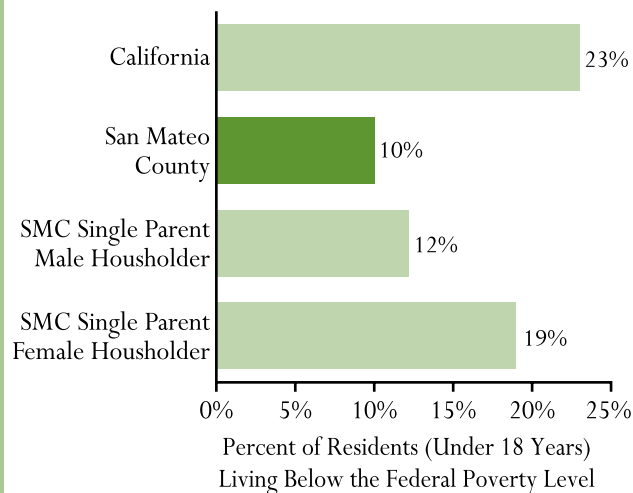
## Key Findings

- A 2008 report by the University of California, Berkeley, School of Law found that the two most significant factors determining children’s academic success were family income and English language ability. **In San Mateo County, nearly one quarter of public school students are classified as English Learners (EL)**; across the state, EL students score much lower on California Standards Tests than other groups. **Over one-third of county students qualify for the free/reduced price meal program** (available to students whose family income falls below 1.3 and 1.85 times the 2009 federal income poverty guidelines, respectively).
- Single-parent families are more likely to live in poverty and experience stress, both of which put children at increased risk for poor academic achievement and behavioral and health-related problems. In 2011, **21% of the families in the county with children under 18 years of age were headed by a single parent**, with 70% of these single-parent households headed by a female. **While the child poverty rate for San Mateo County is 10%, it rises to 19% for children in single-mother households.**
- Access to high quality and affordable healthcare helps people live healthier, more productive lives. In 2013, **12% of county adults (18–64) lack healthcare insurance**, compared with 26% in California and 21% in the U.S.

## School Funding

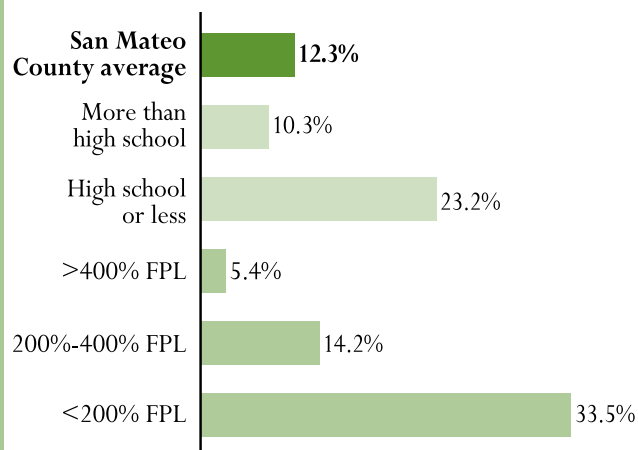
California public school funding is based on a complex and often inequitable system. Per pupil total expenditures in San Mateo County range from a low of \$7,299 in Millbrae Elementary to \$17,962 for Woodside Elementary School District. Governor Brown’s new school funding proposal would simplify the system and provide extra aid for those students most at risk by giving all school districts a per pupil base grant, with an extra 35% added for each student who is low income, an English learner, or in foster care.

Child Poverty Rates, 2011



Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey

Percent of Population (18-64) Lacking Healthcare Insurance by Income and Educational Attainment San Mateo County, 2013



Data Source: San Mateo County Health System  
FPL = Federal Poverty Level

# Environment

*A healthy environment has clean air, water, and soil, as well as abundant open spaces that allow native animals and plants to thrive.*

## VEHICLE MILES TRAVELED (VMT) BY COUNTY

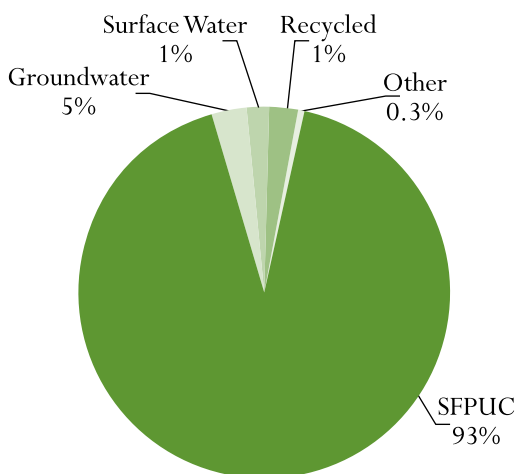
County	Daily VMT (Millions)	2012 Daily Per Capita VMT
Santa Clara	43	24
Alameda	40	26
Contra Costa	28	26
<b>San Mateo</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>29</b>
San Francisco	14	17
Marin	7	26
California	977	26

Data Source: California Air Resources Board

## Key Findings

- Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) is the total number of miles driven by all vehicles in a given time period and geographic area. VMT in the county in 2012 was 21 million miles per day, up slightly from the year prior, but 3% lower than 2000 levels. **San Mateo County's per capita VMT, above the state average, reflects high levels of cross-county commuting.**
- **Total water usage in San Mateo County in 2010-11 was 79.78 million gallons per day, 17% lower than peak water usage in 2003-2004.** Residential consumption accounts for over 67% of water usage in the county, with the majority of this usage for single family homes.
- **The county is heavily dependent on a single water source, with 93% of supplies coming from the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC).** SFPUC receives on average 85% of its water from the Hetch Hetchy Reservoir in Yosemite National Park and the remainder from local Bay Area watersheds.
- **San Mateo County encompasses over 286,000 acres of land, with 41% of this land designated as protected open space.** Of the nine Bay Area counties, only Marin has a higher percentage of open space lands. With many cities in the county fully built-out under current zoning, the focus on future development will largely be on designing more sustainable in-fill projects that bring new residents and businesses into already developed areas.

## Water Use by Supply Source San Mateo County, 2010-11



Data source: Bay Area Water Supply & Conservation Agency.  
Water use is reported according to their fiscal year.

## Climate Action Plan (CAP)

In an effort to curb greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, many cities are adopting CAPs. In the first step of the process, cities create a baseline inventory of municipal and community GHG emissions and then identify target reductions. The recommended target for 2020 is 15% below baseline levels. Emissions reductions strategies unique to the community are evaluated and, after public meetings and an environmental review process, the most promising strategies are put into the CAP and/or General Plan. As of January 2013, 52% of cities/unincorporated county had a completed CAP and 38% were in the process of completing one (see page 68 for a list of cities and their CAP status).

# Income Inequality



## Why is this Important?

This year's key indicator, Income Inequality, focuses on the unequal distribution of income across members of a community. While rising income inequality is not limited to the United States, it is happening at an accelerated rate here, and the U.S. now has some of the highest levels of income inequality of all the developed countries. A study by the Congressional Budget Office found that from 1979–2007, average household after-tax income (adjusted for inflation) in the U.S. increased 62%. These gains, however, were highly skewed with the top 1% seeing household income rise by 275% compared with only 18% for the bottom 20% of earners.

During the Great Recession from 2007–2009, previously stagnating median household income for middle and lower income earners actually declined in real terms to levels last seen in the mid-1990s. The Public Policy Institute of California's study "*Great Recession and Distribution of Income in California*" found that California has higher income inequality and a lower share of middle-income families than the U.S. as a whole.

There is growing consensus among economists and social scientists that while income inequality is inherently part of a healthy, free market economy, the level reached in the U.S. is cause for concern. Poverty rates—15% nationwide—are now at their highest point in the last two decades. Some economists assert that widening inequality also hampers economic growth. Those with middle and lower incomes generally spend the majority of what they earn, and when this income stagnates or declines, there is less spending to fuel the economy.

Our economic mobility, the ability for people to move up or down the economic ladder, has also stalled. More than 40% of those raised in the bottom income quintile remain there as adults, with African Americans espe-

cially limited in their prospects to move up. A study by the Brookings Institution found that economic mobility is lower in the United States than in most European countries.

Woven through all these facets of income inequality is education. With our knowledge-based economy, a four-year college degree is now more essential than ever for finding a well-paying job and increasing lifetime earning potential, but rapidly rising tuition costs have made college a costly stepping stone that many cannot afford. A recent study found that the gap in college completion rates between affluent and lower-income students has grown 50% since the late 1980s.

Economists point to a variety of additional causes for our widening income inequality: declining union membership, a shifting tax structure, and changes in compensation that allow for escalating executive pay. Growing income inequality is a complex problem that deserves serious discussion, and this year's Key Indicator provides the statistics and information necessary to initiate this dialogue in San Mateo County.

## What is a Sustainable State?

In a sustainable state, the distribution of income supports a broad middle class and offers fair chances for upward mobility. All residents have access to quality, affordable education from preschool through college. Working parents have a range of child care options available, and a strong safety net of social services supports those most in need. Access to affordable health-care reduces health disparities, while housing and land use policies encourage diverse neighborhoods and ensure a sufficient supply of affordable housing.

*"Widely unequal societies do not function efficiently, and their economies are neither stable nor sustainable in the long term."*

—Joseph E. Stiglitz



**Indicators and Trends**

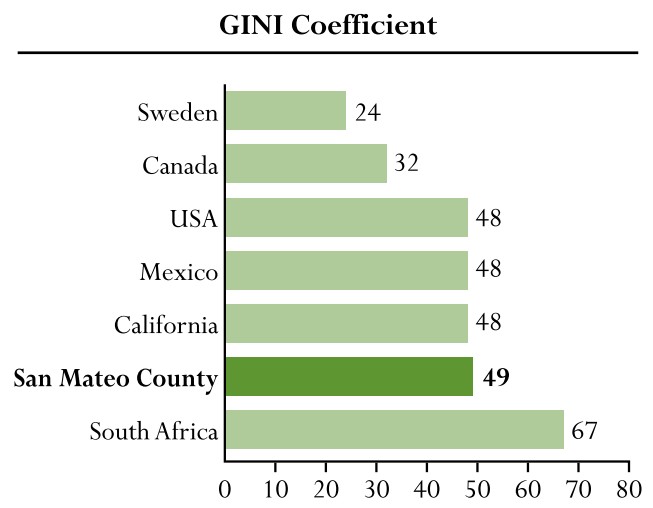
<b>Income Distribution</b>	↓	<i>Negative trend</i>
<b>Income Inequality &amp; Education</b>	↓	<i>Negative trend</i>
<b>Income Inequality &amp; Poverty</b>	↓	<i>Negative trend</i>
<b>Income by Race/Ethnicity</b>	↔	<i>No clear trend</i>
<b>Income by Gender</b>	↔	<i>No clear trend</i>
<b>Income Inequality &amp; Health</b>	↓	<i>Negative trend</i>

**Key Findings**

- Over the last three decades, income inequality has risen sharply in the U.S., and the country now has some of the highest levels of income inequality of all the developed countries.
- The Great Recession created a “lost decade” for middle and low income families in California who saw their real income fall to levels last seen in the mid-1990s.
- The share of highest income households—those earning over \$200,000 per year—increased in San Mateo County from 2006–2011. Median household income in the county declined 9% from 2007–2011.
- Income in the county differs greatly by educational attainment, with median income for college graduates nearly triple that of people with less than a high school diploma.
- The education achievement gap between children from high and low income families has grown 40% since the 1960s.
- Income in the county varies widely by race/ethnicity and by gender.
- Although most Americans today earn more than their parents did, relative economic mobility is stagnating, with over 40% of those born into the top and bottom income quintiles likely to remain there as adults.

**Income Distribution**

The Gini Coefficient, scored on a scale of 0–100, measures the distribution of income across a population. A score of zero reflects total income equality (i.e., each person earns the same amount), and 100 signals absolute inequality (i.e., one person earns all of the income). While there is no optimal level of distribution, excessively high income inequality is associated with reduced economic growth, a decline in upward mobility, and increased social tensions.



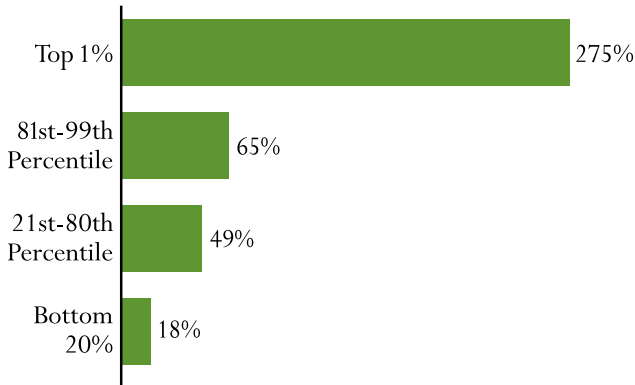
Data Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey (USA, CA, SMC), Eurostat (Sweden), World Bank (Mexico, South Africa), Conference Board of Canada (Canada). Data for Mexico is for 2008, South Africa is for 2006, and Canada is for 2010.

- Income inequality in San Mateo County is considerably higher than in Canada and European countries such as Sweden and is, in fact, comparable to Mexico’s.
- In a recent study, Americans said they believed income inequality in our country was too high, but when asked to explain the current levels, they picked a description that matched Sweden’s income distribution. In other words, Americans greatly underestimate the actual degree of inequality we now have.



*Income Distribution, continued*

**Percent Change in Real After-Tax Household Income U.S. , 1979-2007**



Data Source: Congressional Budget Office Report: "Trends in the Distribution of Household Income, 1979-2007"

- Gains in household income over the last 30 years have gone disproportionately to the top 1% of income earners.

**Taxes and Transfers**

Government transfers (payments to individuals such as Medicare, Social Security, and disability) and federal taxes reduce the disparity of household income, meaning that after taxes and transfers, the distribution of income is somewhat more equal. A study by the Congressional Budget Office found that this redistributive effect was less in 2007 than in 1997, due to a smaller share of transfer payments going to the lowest income households as well as to changes to the tax code.

In 1979, households in the bottom income quintile received 50% of all transfer payments. By 2007, that share had declined to 35% because of growth in transfer programs like Social Security and Medicare, whose benefits go to all income groups, not just the poor.

During this same period, the federal tax rate fell for all groups, while the composition of federal revenues shifted slightly from more progressive income taxes to more regressive payroll taxes.

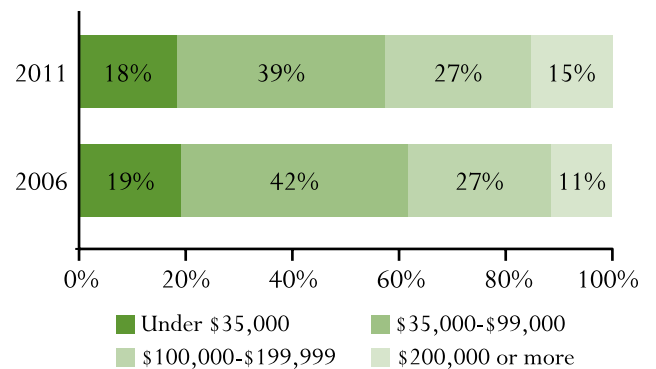
**FAMILY INCOME, CALIFORNIA, 2007-2010**

Family Income	2007	2010	Percent change 2007-2010
10 Percentile	\$19,100	\$15,000	-21%
25th Percentile	\$34,600	\$31,200	-10%
Median	\$68,400	\$61,100	-11%
75th Percentile	\$122,000	\$112,400	-8%
90th Percentile	\$188,300	\$179,100	-5%
95th Percentile	\$246,000	\$226,300	-8%

Data Source: Public Policy Institute of California "Great Recession and Distribution of Income in California"

- The Great Recession took a toll on earners at all distribution levels in California, with the bottom 10th percentile experiencing the most negative impact.
- The gap between the bottom and top 10% of family incomes in the state is now at its widest level in 30 years and is growing faster than in the country as a whole.

**Household Income Distribution in San Mateo County, 2006 and 2011**



Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey

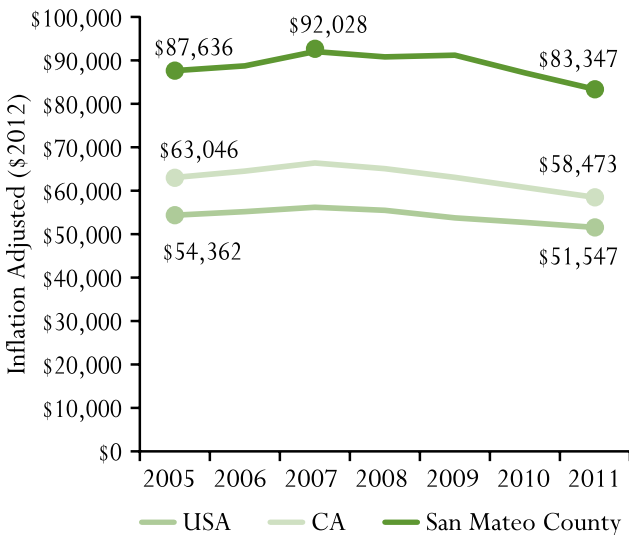
- From 2006–2011, the share of highest income households—those earning over \$200,000—increased, while the lowest two income brackets saw their share decrease.

For more trends in employment and wages in the county, see the Employment Section on pages 22–26.



Income Distribution, continued

Median Household Income, 2005-2011



Data Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey

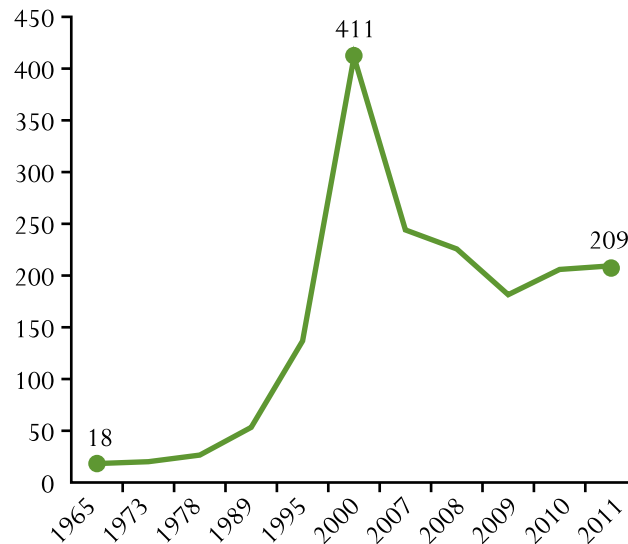
- Adjusted for inflation, median household income declined nationwide from 2005–2011. Higher unemployment, fewer full-time jobs, and a loss of well-paying jobs are key reasons for the decline.
- Median household income in San Mateo County in 2011 had fallen 9.4% since its peak in 2007 and was almost 5% below 2005 levels. (2012 figures were not yet available at date of publication.)

MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME BAY AREA COUNTIES

County	2011 (\$2012)	Percent change 2005-2011
Santa Clara	\$86,651	-4%
<b>San Mateo</b>	<b>\$83,347</b>	<b>-5%</b>
Marin	\$78,764	-15%
Contra Costa	\$75,891	-7%
San Francisco	\$71,340	-6%
Alameda	\$68,956	-4%
Solano	\$65,115	-11%
Sonoma	\$62,282	-9%

Data Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey

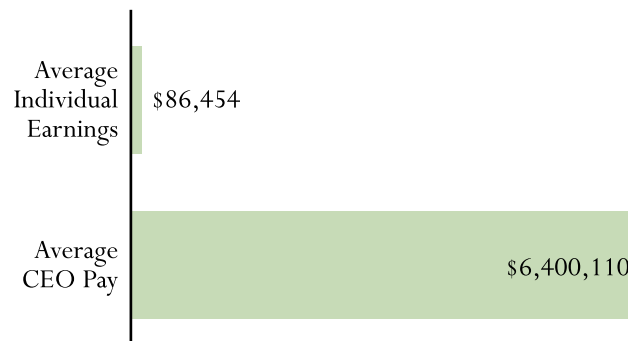
Ratio of Annual CEO and Workers Compensation United States, 1965-2011



Data Sources: Economic Policy Institute and Bureau of Labour Statistics

- In 2011, CEO compensation in the U.S. was 209 times greater than average worker compensation. Although the gap has shrunk since reaching a peak in 2000, it is considerably higher than in 1965, when CEO compensation was only 18 times greater.

Average Earnings for CEOs and Individuals San Mateo County, 2011



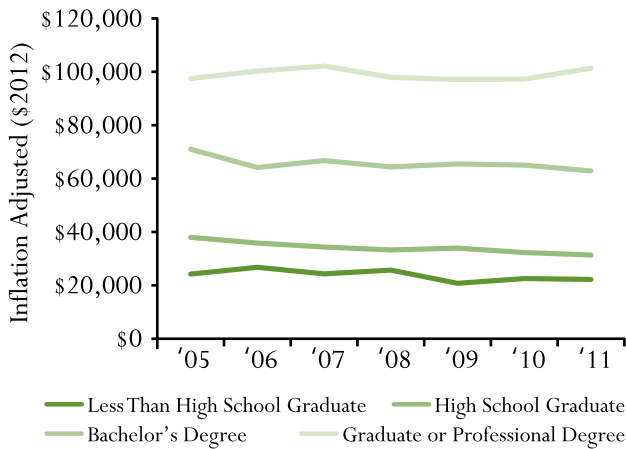
Data Sources: Mercury News Data Center and U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey

- In 2011, the average CEO earnings for San Mateo County companies in the top 199 of Bay Area companies (by revenue) was 74 times greater than the average individual earnings of workers in the county.



# Income Inequality and Education

**Median Personal Income by Educational Attainment, San Mateo County, 2005-2011**



Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey

MEDIAN PERSONAL INCOME BY EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT SAN MATEO COUNTY		
	2011	Percent change 2005-2011
Less Than High School Graduate	\$22,216	-8%
High School Graduate	\$31,360	-17%
Bachelor's Degree	\$62,863	-11%
Graduate or Professional Degree	\$101,333	+4%

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey

- Median income for college graduates in 2011 was nearly triple that of people with less than a high school diploma.
- Only those with a graduate or professional degree saw median income rise from 2005–2011. Graduate or professional degrees come with a 61% income premium compared with college degrees.

## The Income Achievement Gap

While the education achievement gap between white and black students has narrowed over the last 50 years, the difference between wealthy and poor students has grown. A study by Sean Reardon of Stanford showed that on standardized testing, the gap between affluent and low-income students has risen 40% since the 1960s, with children on the bottom end of the income scale now lagging four years of school behind their peers at the upper end.

The income achievement gap is already large when students enter kindergarten and does not change much during the school years, leading experts to believe that the causes for the growing achievement gap lie in early childhood experiences and learning. Wealthier parents are investing in their children at levels not seen before by spending more time with them and by spending more money on their enrichment activities. In 1972, upper-income Americans spent five times as much on their children as lower-income families; by 2007, they were spending nine times as much.

## PERCENT OF 12TH GRADERS COMPLETING UC/CSU COURSE REQUIREMENTS SAN MATEO COUNTY, 2010-2011

Asian	71%
White	61%
Two or More Races	53%
<b>County Average</b>	<b>48%</b>
Filipino	48%
Hispanic/Latino	28%
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	25%
African American	24%

Data Source: Education Data Partnership

- County data for college readiness by parental income are not available, but when looking at college readiness by race/ethnicity, there are significant differences.

For more information, see Education Indicators, pages 46–49.





## Income Inequality and Education, continued

SCHOOL DISTRICT PER PUPIL EXPENDITURES SAN MATEO COUNTY, 2010-2011	
<b>Top 3 Districts</b>	<b>Total Expenditures per Student</b>
Woodside Elementary	\$17,962
Portola Valley Elementary	\$17,613
Hillsborough City Elementary	\$13,848
<b>Bottom 3 Districts</b>	<b>Total Expenditures per Student</b>
Millbrae Elementary	\$7,299
San Mateo-Foster City Elementary	\$7,480
Burlingame Elementary	\$7,503
<b>California Average</b>	<b>\$8,818</b>

Data Sources: Education Data Partnership

### Fueling Inequality?

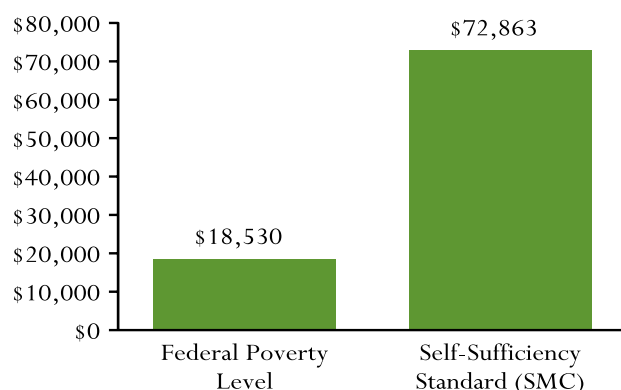
Current California public school funding is based on a complex and often quite inequitable system, and there is a substantial difference between districts in the county in total expenditures per student. Wealthier districts that fall on the lower end of the funding spectrum can make up some of the difference and weather cuts to the budget through educational foundations that accept donations from the community, while the poorer districts often cannot.

Governor Brown's new school funding proposal would simplify the system by giving all school districts a base grant, with an extra 35% added for each student who is low income, an English learner, or in foster care. If those students make up 50% or more of the overall population, an additional 35% would be given to the district. Part of the impetus for this reform came from a 2008 report that showed family income and English language ability were the two most important factors determining students' academic success.

For a list of school funding for all the districts in the county, see Education Indicators, pages 46-49.

## Income Inequality and Poverty

Federal Poverty Level and Self-Sufficiency Standard for a Family of Three  
San Mateo County, 2011



Data Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey; The Insight Center for Community Economic Development.

- The Federal Poverty Level is calculated annually and adjusted for inflation, but it does not take local cost of living into account. The Self-Sufficiency Standard is an alternate measure that factors in local costs of living to track the income required to meet basic needs without public or private subsidies.

### New Poverty Measures

The Census Bureau's Supplemental Poverty Measure (SPM) adjusts for geographic differences in the cost of housing and accounts for in-kind benefits (nutritional assistance, subsidized housing, etc.) as well as for expenses (taxes, child care, etc.). Now only available at the national and state levels, the SPM reveals a higher extent of poverty for California (23.5%) than the official poverty measure (16.6%).

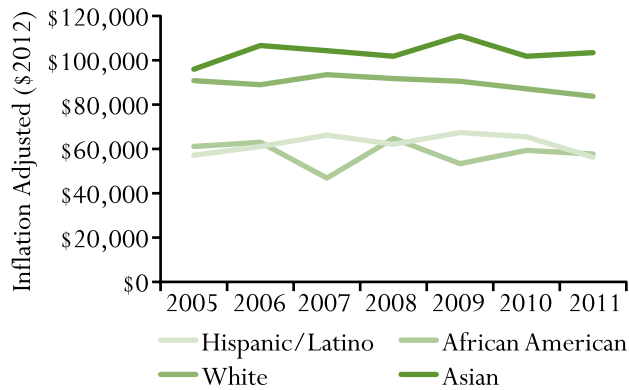
The Stanford University Center for Poverty and Inequality and the Public Policy Institute of California are developing a new measure of economic hardship for the state. This measure, constructed in the spirit of the SPM, will create a better understanding of the demographic differences in the experience of hardship and will enable researchers to explore the impact of safety net programs on poverty reduction.

For information on Stanford's Center for Poverty and Inequality, visit [www.stanford.edu/group/scspi/](http://www.stanford.edu/group/scspi/).



## Income by Race/Ethnicity

Median Personal Income by Race/Ethnicity  
San Mateo, 2005-2011



Data Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey

### MEDIAN PERSONAL INCOME BY RACE/ETHNICITY, SAN MATEO COUNTY

	2011	Percent Change 2005-2011
Asian	103,431	+8%
White	83,763	-8%
African American	57,691	-6%
Hispanic/Latino	56,273	-2%

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey

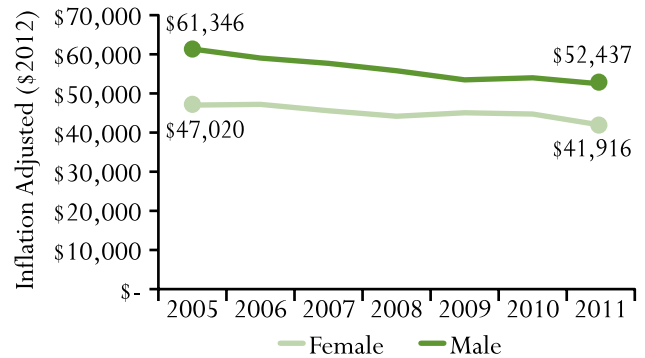
- Only Asians saw a rise in income (+8%) from 2005–2011.
- The largest decline was for Whites (-8%), but their incomes are still 20% higher than those of African Americans and Hispanics/Latinos.

*“Over half of low-income Hispanic family heads lack high school educations.”*

—Urban Institute, 2009

## Income by Gender

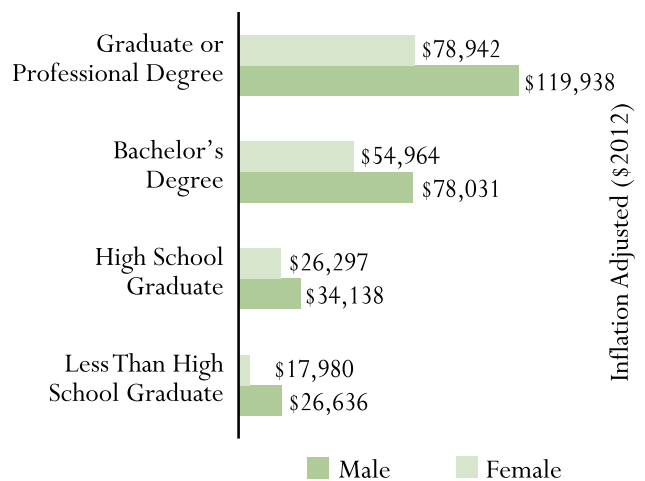
Median Personal Income by Gender  
San Mateo County, 2005-2011



Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey

- While the gender income gap has declined considerably over the last 30 years, it still persists.
- Male income experienced a sharper decline during the Great Recession than female income.

Median Personal Income by Gender and Educational Attainment, San Mateo County, 2011



Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey

- Significant income disparities exist by gender and educational attainment, with the largest percentage difference (52%) between men and women with a graduate or professional degree.



## Income Inequality and Health

HEALTH INEQUALITY, SAN MATEO COUNTY			
City	Average Age at Death (years)	Median Household Income (2011)	Poverty Rate (2011)
Atherton	80.6	\$250,000+	5%
Foster City	76.1	\$115,053	4%
<b>County Average</b>	<b>75.0</b>	<b>\$87,663</b>	<b>7%</b>
San Mateo	76.2	86,772	6%
Daly City	73.2	\$75,399	8%
East Palo Alto	61.8	\$50,137	17%

Data Sources: San Mateo County Health System, Get Healthy San Mateo County, City Health Profiles and U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey

### The Healthy Wealthy

Life expectancy in the U.S. conforms to a pattern called the “social gradient,” meaning that the more income and wealth people have, the more likely they are to live longer. Residents in areas with low poverty rates can expect to live an average of 10 years longer than people in places with the most poverty.

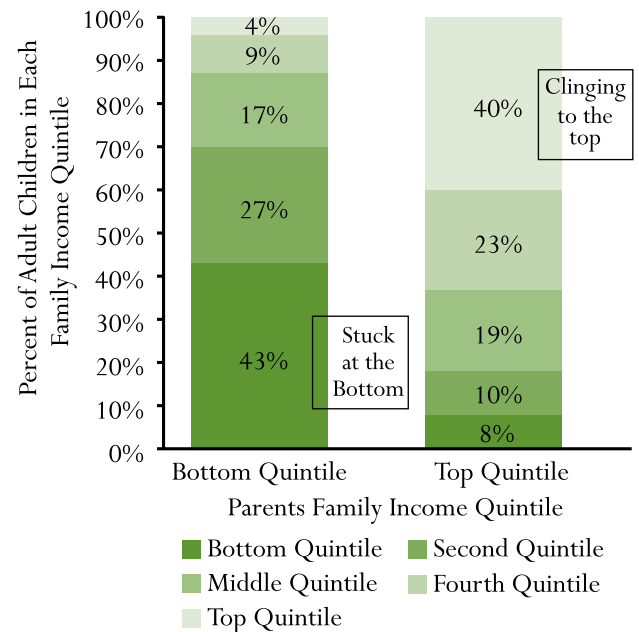
A 2001 study by Lochner et al. found that individuals living in states with high levels of income inequality had a 12% higher risk of mortality. Other findings point towards increased levels of depression, stress, and anxiety among low-income workers that can lead to health problems, lost days at work, and even a perpetuating poverty cycle.

Another study of 283 U.S. metropolitan areas found that the mortality rate among low-income people living in low-inequality areas was actually lower than the mortality rate among high-income people living in high-inequality areas. The conclusion was that low levels of income inequality were associated with significant health benefits for all people living in that area.

For more on income inequality and health, see Health Indicators on pages 42–45 and the Air Quality Indicator, page 63.

## Economic Mobility

### U.S. Economic Mobility for Top and Bottom Quintiles, 2009



Data Source: The PEW Charitable Trusts, “Pursuing the American Dream: Economic Mobility Across Generations,” July 2012.

- Income mobility is “stuck” in the bottom and top income quintiles, with over 40% of adult children remaining in the same quintile they were born into.

### Mixed Mobility

According to a study by the PEW Charitable Trusts, economic mobility in the U.S. is a mixed picture. When measuring absolute mobility, or the change in a person’s economic condition over time, we score fairly well as 84% of Americans today have higher family income than their parents did.

Relative mobility measures a person’s income relative to another’s, and on this measure, the U.S. is not doing as well as there is very little movement from the top and bottom quintiles. Only 4% of those born in the bottom quintile make it to the top and only 8% born into the top quintile fall to the bottom.

*“The ideal of the American Dream is complex and we see again that one’s ability to achieve it is impacted by race, education, and family background.”*

—Erin Currier, Pew’s Economic Mobility Project

# Population



## Why is this Important?

The size, age, and composition of the population are important indicators for community planning and economic activity. Shifts in the demographic profile such as increased immigration and movement towards younger or older age groups can bring new demands for public services, impact economic growth, and exert pressure on space or natural resources.

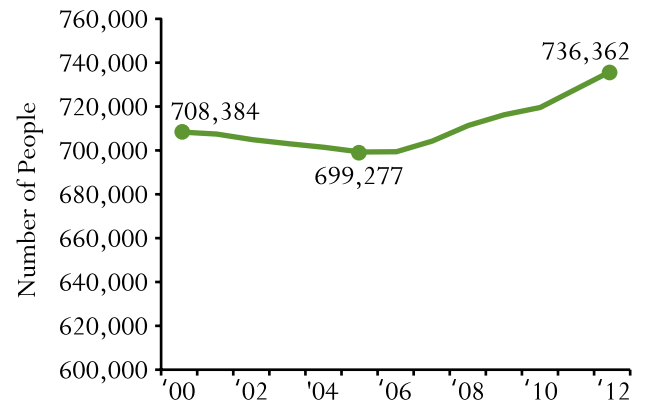
## What is a Sustainable State?

In a sustainable state, a community can adapt to changing population dynamics without negatively impacting quality of life or depleting non-renewable natural resources.

## Key Findings

- In 2012, San Mateo County's population was 736,362, an increase of 8,382 residents from the year prior. This growth includes a natural increase (number of births minus number of deaths) of 4,377 people and positive net migration (number of people moving into an area minus number moving out) of 4,005 residents.
- By 2030, San Mateo County's population is projected to grow by over 66,000, while the Bay Area will add close to 725,000 residents.
- Between now and 2030, the age profile of the county will change, with an 80% increase in residents 65 and older. There will also be significant growth in the Hispanic/Latino and Asian groups.

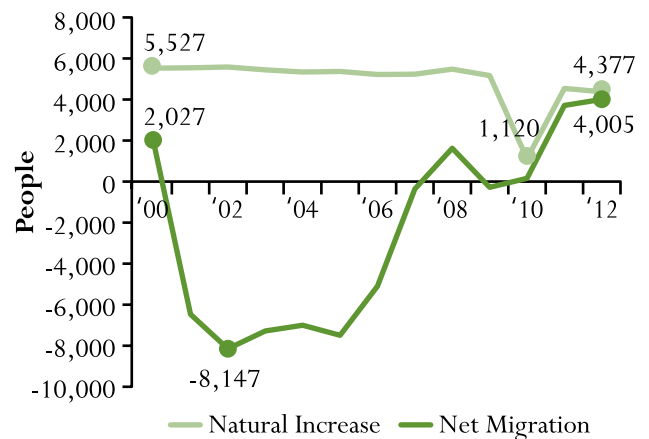
**Total Population, San Mateo County  
2000-2012**



Data Source: State of California, Department of Finance

- After declining from 2000-2005, the county's population is again growing and is up 4% from 2000.

**Drivers of Population Change  
San Mateo County, 2000-2012**



Data Source: California Department of Finance

- From 2000–2008, the county lost 88,443 residents to domestic migration as many more people moved out of the county to other parts of the U.S. than moved in. This trend reversed in 2011, and for the last two years domestic migration has contributed to population growth.



- The county is projected to add over 66,000 residents by 2030, while the Bay Area will grow by nearly 725,000 people. This growth will impact already strained transportation networks and housing supply. See the Transportation: Mobility Indicator, page 25.

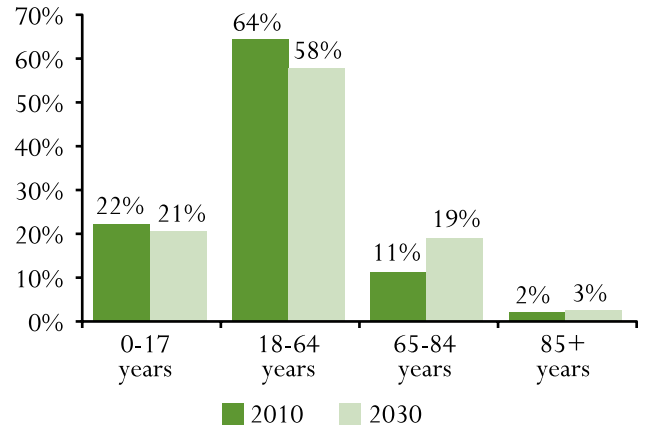
BAY AREA COUNTIES CURRENT AND PROJECTED POPULATION			
County	2012	2030	Change 2012-2030
Santa Clara	1,828,597	1,986,545	+157,948
Alameda	1,540,790	1,657,567	+116,777
Contra Costa	1,069,803	1,254,205	+184,402
San Francisco	820,349	877,847	+57,498
<b>San Mateo</b>	<b>736,362</b>	<b>803,288</b>	<b>+66,926</b>
Sonoma	489,283	534,439	+45,156
Solano	415,913	493,422	+77,509
Marin	254,882	253,026	-1,856
Napa	138,577	158,649	+20,072
<b>Bay Area Total</b>	<b>7,294,556</b>	<b>8,018,988</b>	<b>+724,432</b>

Data Source: State of California, Department of Finance

BIGGEST CITIES IN SAN MATEO COUNTY, 2013		
City	2013 Population	Percent Change from 2012
Daly City	103,347	1.0%
San Mateo	99,061	1.0%
Redwood City	79,074	1.3%
South San Francisco	65,127	1.5%
San Bruno	42,828	1.1%

Data Source: State of California, Department of Finance

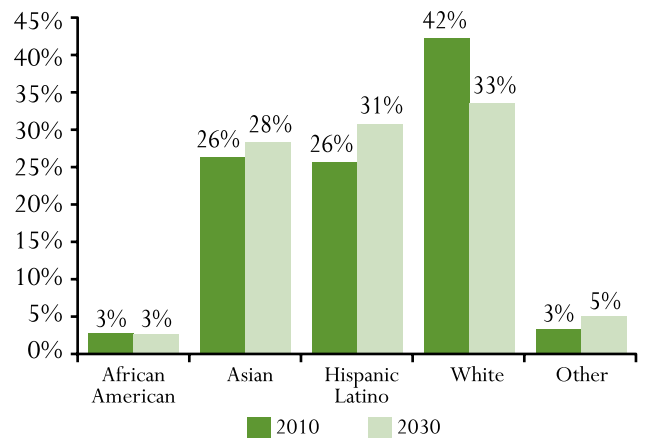
### Population by Age Group, San Mateo County 2010 and 2030



Data Source: California Department of Finance

- The Silver Tsunami will hit San Mateo County in the next 20 years, with sharp growth in the share of the population 65 and older. This will place significant demands on the healthcare system and require adjustments in transportation and housing policies.

### Population by Race/Ethnicity San Mateo County, 2010 and 2030



Data Source: California Department of Finance

- The composition of the county by race/ethnicity will also change over the next twenty years, with the most pronounced growth in the share of total population that is Asian and Hispanic/Latino.

# Economy



*A vibrant economy fosters innovative businesses and provides goods, services, and jobs for area residents*

## Employment



## Housing



## Innovation



## Economy by the Numbers

- 10,868,212,800:** Venture capital (VC) investment, in dollars, in Silicon Valley in 2012, 8% lower than 2011.
- 13,290,098,689:** Total taxable sales, in dollars, in the county in 2011. Taxable sales are down 10% from 2002.
- 740,908:** Median sales price (in dollars) of a single family home in San Mateo County in 2012, a 6% increase from the year prior.
- 322,500:** Total number of jobs in the county in 2011, 53,000 fewer than in 2000.
- 15,738:** Number of new housing units that were targeted to be built between 2007–2014. To date, less than 30% of this goal has been reached.
- 78.3:** Percent of businesses in the county that have 0-9 employees. Over 60% of employees in the county, however, work for businesses with 50 or more employees.
- 63:** Number of businesses in the county certified under the county's new green business certification program.
- 44:** Percent of housing stock in the county that was built before 1960. The county's housing stock is considerably older than California's.
- 39:** Percent of households in the county with a mortgage that pay more than 35% of their household income on housing costs.
- 6.8:** Unemployment rate in the county in 2012, well below the California rate of 10.5%.

With the changing economy, no one has lifetime employment.  
But community colleges provide lifetime employability.

– President Barack Obama

# Employment



## Why is this Important?

Job growth expands a community’s economy, while employment spread across industries reduces the impacts of a recession. A growing economy with high employment rates leads to increased business investment and generates revenue for local and state governments to fund public services. Rising wages raise the standard of living for workers, which can further accelerate economic growth.

High employment rates are good for the overall economy, but on an individual level, employment has many personal benefits. Being employed in a job that pays a living wage not only allows people to support their families, it also contributes to positive emotional well-being. Employment and health are also linked, with studies showing employed people more likely to report having good health than the unemployed.

San Mateo County’s central location between two major employment hubs in San Francisco and Santa Clara Counties means that the county has high levels of cross-county commuting. On an average workday, approximately 177,000 people commute out of the county and 174,000 commute in. This contributes to traffic congestion, longer commutes, increased vehicle emissions, and air pollution.

## What is a Sustainable State?

In a sustainable state, employment is spread across industries, and the availability of jobs and workers with matching skills is in balance. Jobs pay at least a living wage, meaning that workers earn the minimum income needed to meet basic needs such as shelter, clothing, and food. Workers are able to conveniently reach their jobs via a variety of transportation choices, including public transit, walking, biking, and ride-sharing.

### Indicators and Trends

<b>Jobs</b>	↔	<i>No clear trend</i>
<b>Unemployment</b>	↑	<i>Positive trend</i>
<b>Wages</b>	↓	<i>Negative trend</i>
<b>Transportation: Mobility</b>	↓	<i>Negative trend</i>

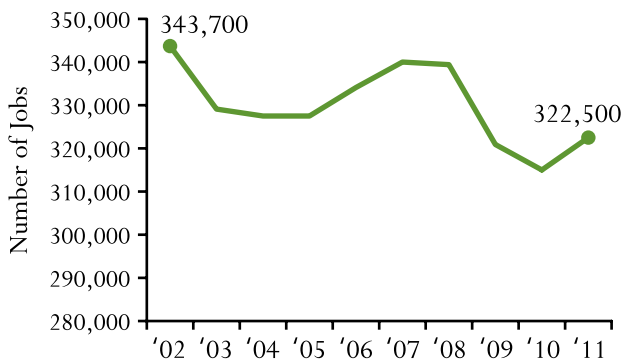
## Key Findings

- In 2011, there were over 322,000 jobs in the county, an increase from the year prior, but still 6% lower than 2002 levels.
- Of the main job sectors in the county, the only ones to show increased employment since 2002 are: Educational & Health Services (+16%), Leisure & Hospitality (+15%), and Professional & Business Services (+7%).
- The top three employers in the county by number of employees are: Genentech (8,600), Oracle (7,000), and the County of San Mateo (5,979).
- In 2012, the unemployment rate in the county fell to 6.8%, well below state and national rates and the second lowest of all Bay Area counties.
- Despite job growth, average weekly wages (adjusted for inflation) in the county in 2011 declined from 2010 and are 14% below 2000 levels.
- The two sectors with the highest percentage job growth over the last decade, Leisure & Hospitality and Education & Health, both have average weekly wages below the county average.
- Only 40% of employed residents of the county work in San Mateo County; 60% commute to other counties. The majority of residents drive alone to work.



## Jobs

**Total Employment  
San Mateo County, 2002-2011**



Data Source: California Employment Development Department

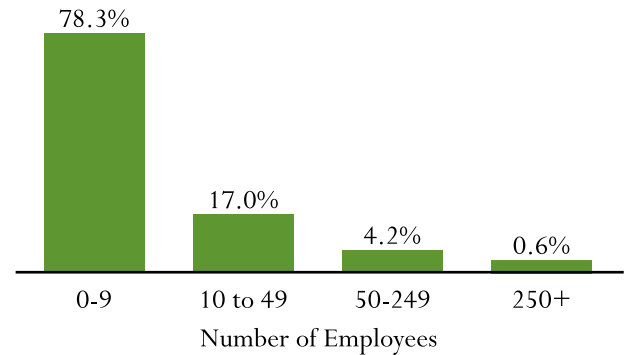
- After two years of sharp declines, the number of jobs in the county in 2011 (the latest year for which annual data are available) increased by 2% from the year prior. Total number of jobs was still 6% below 2002 levels.
- The trend with job growth continued into 2012, with jobs in the county increasing by 4.3% on a year-over basis as of the second quarter of 2012.

**EMPLOYMENT BY TOP SECTORS  
SAN MATEO COUNTY**

Sector	Jobs 2011	Change 2010-2011	Change 2002-2011
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	68,200	0%	-15%
Professional & Business Services	63,200	5%	7%
Goods Producing	40,100	2%	-20%
Leisure & Hospitality	35,300	4%	15%
Educational & Health Services	34,700	4%	16%
Government	30,500	-3%	-9%
Financial Activities	19,300	4%	-11%
Information	17,400	-1%	-26%

Data Source: California Employment Development Department

**Percent of Businesses by Business Size  
San Mateo County, 3rd Quarter 2011**



Data Source: California Employment Development Department

- The majority of the 24,458 businesses in the county are small businesses (0-9 employees).

**Percent of Employees by Business Size  
San Mateo County, 3rd Quarter 2011**



Data Source: California Employment Development Department

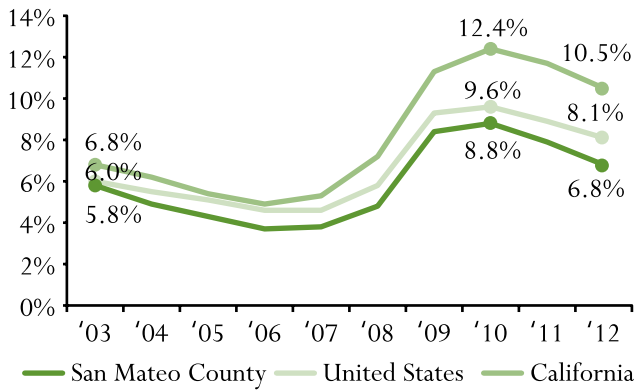
- The majority of employees in the county work for larger sized companies with 50 or more employees.
- The top employers in the county by number of employees are: Genentech (8,600), Oracle (7,000), the County of San Mateo (5,979), and Kaiser Permanente (3,855).
- Other employers in the county with more than 1,000 employees are Visa, Mills-Peninsula Health Services, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, San Francisco Airport, Salesforce, Franklin Resources, San Mateo County Community College District, Safeway, Electronic Arts, Gilead Sciences, Guckenheimer, Seton Medical Center, Virgin America, and the Stanford Linear Accelerator Laboratory.





## Unemployment

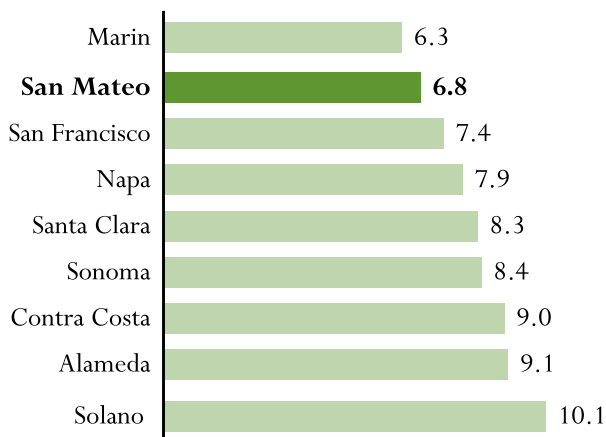
Unemployment Rate, 2003–2012



Data Source: California Employment Development Department

- After peaking in 2010, the unemployment rate declined for the second straight year.
- San Mateo County registered the second lowest unemployment rate after Marin County among California’s 58 counties as of December 2012.
- Unemployment rates within the county vary greatly by city, from a high of 18.5% in East Palo Alto to a low of 3.4% in Hillsborough (2011 data). For unemployment rates by city, see page 36.

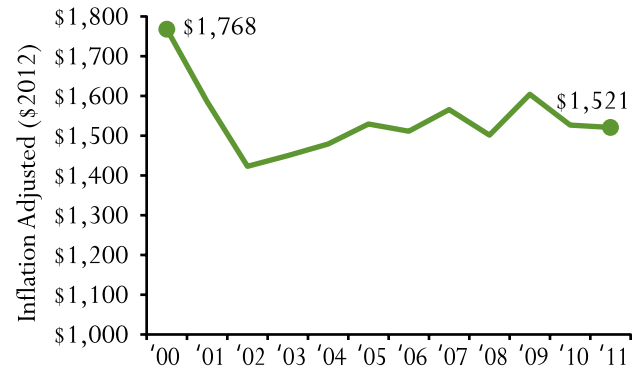
Unemployment Rate, Bay Area Counties, 2012



Data Source: California Employment Development Department

## Wages

Average Weekly Wages  
San Mateo County, 2000–2011



Data Source: California Employment Development Department

- Average weekly wages in 2011 (adjusted for inflation \$2012), declined slightly from the year prior and are 14% lower than 2000 levels.

### Minimum Wage

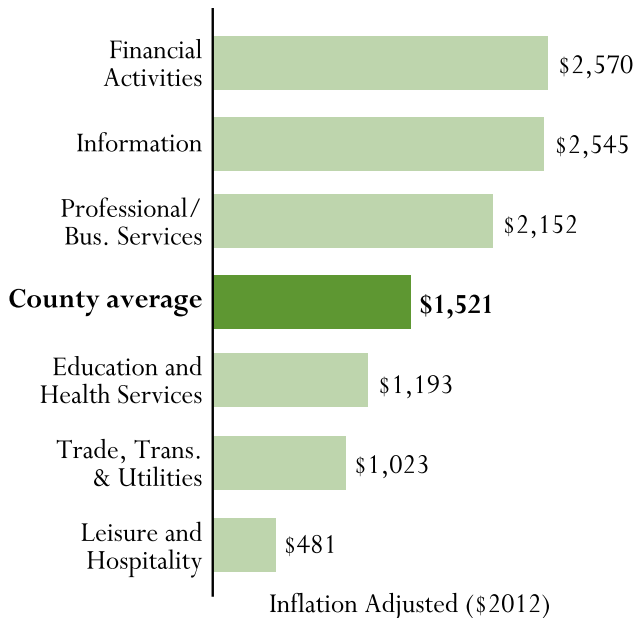
In 2011, the federal minimum wage was \$7.25 per hour. Adjusted for inflation, this was 19% lower than the minimum wage in 1965 and ranks the U.S. on the low end when compared with the minimum wage in other developed countries. Proponents of raising the minimum wage say that it would reduce poverty and increase the spending power of the poorest workers, while critics argue that it might lead to fewer jobs for unskilled workers as well as higher prices.

In November 2012, San Jose voters approved Measure D, which raised the city’s minimum wage from \$8 per hour (which is the minimum wage for California), to \$10 per hour, with automatic annual increases indexed to inflation. San Jose is following in the path of San Francisco, which passed a similar measure in 2003 and has a current minimum wage of \$10.55.



Wages, continued

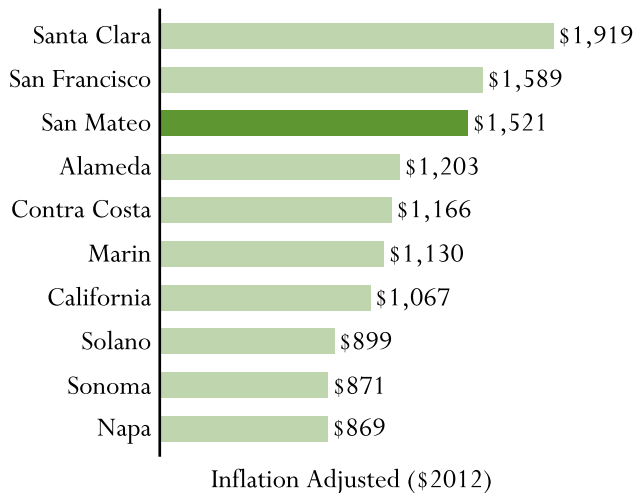
Average Weekly Wages by Industry  
San Mateo County, 2011



Data Source: California Employment Development Department

- The two sectors with the highest percentage job growth over the last decade, Leisure & Hospitality and Education & Health, both pay average weekly wages below the county average.

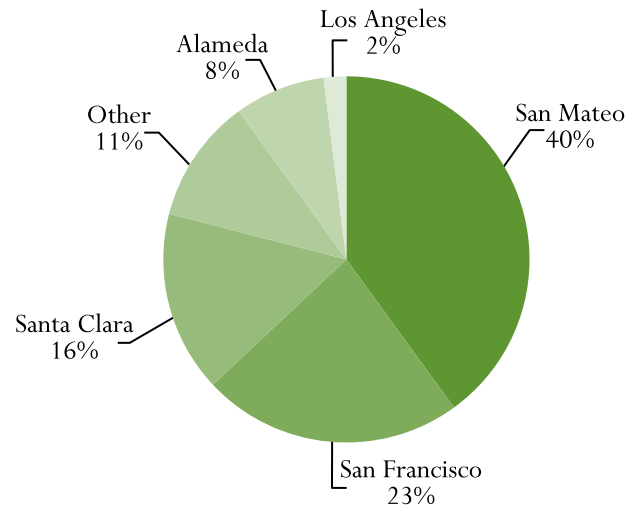
Average Weekly Wages, Bay Area Counties, 2011



Data Source: California Employment Development Department

Transportation: Mobility

County of Employment for  
San Mateo County Residents, 2010



Data Source: San Mateo County Economic Development Association, "Labor Supply and Commute Patterns in San Mateo County," 2012

- Only 40% of employed residents of the county work in San Mateo County; 60% commute to other counties.
- On an average workday, 177,000 people commute out of the county and 174,000 commute in.

BAY AREA COMMUTE PATTERNS

County	Percent Employed Residents who work in the County	Percent of Workers Who Live in the County
Solano	36	39
Contra Costa	39	51
<b>San Mateo</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>40</b>
Marin	41	39
Alameda	49	47
Napa	55	52
San Francisco	60	40
Sonoma	63	71
Santa Clara	71	61

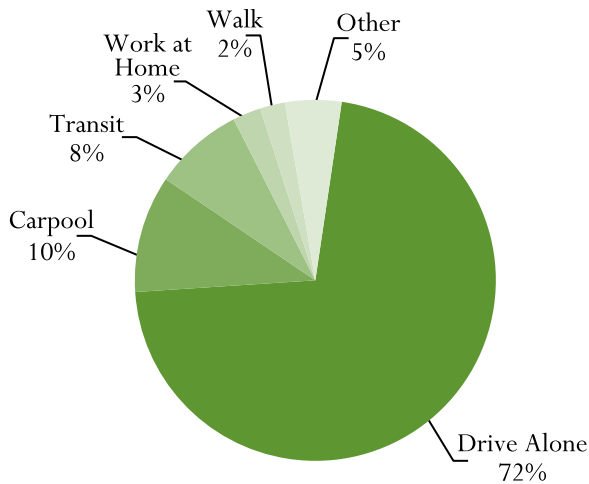
Data Source: San Mateo County Economic Development Association, "Labor Supply and Commute Patterns in San Mateo County," 2012

- San Mateo County has high levels of cross-county commuting, mostly due to its location between major employment centers in San Francisco and Santa Clara counties.



*Transportation: Mobility, continued*

**Travel Modes to Work for San Mateo County Residents, 2011**



Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey

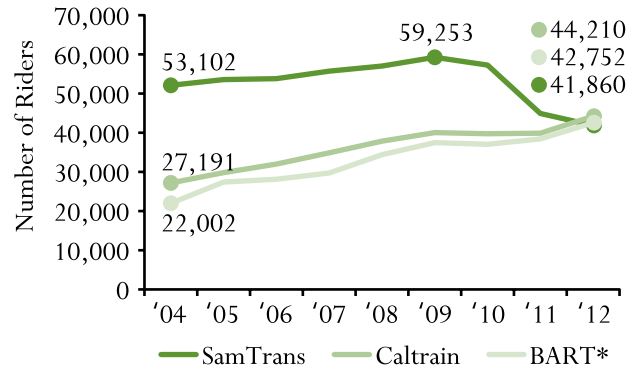
- Almost three quarters of county residents drive alone to work; this percentage is largely unchanged from 2000 levels.
- The percent of residents working at home is at its lowest level in the last 12 years and is down from a high of over 10% in 2007.

**Bike Sharing**

The Bay Area Air Quality Management District signed a \$7 million contract with Alta Bicycle Share to launch a bike-sharing pilot program along the Peninsula. This program builds on the success of already operating programs in Europe, Canada, Washington D.C., Denver, Minneapolis, and Boston. In the initial phase, there will be 700 bikes at seventy stations in cities along the Caltrain Corridor: San Francisco, Redwood City, Palo Alto, Mountain View, and San Jose.

The program will be a membership-based system, with members paying a monthly or annual fee for short-term bicycle rental. Users can check out a bike at any station in the network, ride to their destination, and then return the bike to another station. For more information, visit [www.baaqmd.gov](http://www.baaqmd.gov).

**Average Weekday Transit Ridership by Operator San Mateo County, 2004-2012**



Data Source: SamTrans. Data show Fiscal Year (July 1-June 30) ridership. \*BART data show Colma, SSF, SB, SFO, and Millbrae

- Daily transit ridership in the county was just over 132,000 in 2012. Total transit ridership is down from a high in 2009, mostly because of the drop-off in SamTrans ridership, which is down 30% over the last three years. Reasons for declining SamTrans ridership include fare increases, the elimination of some express routes, and the recession and slow recovery.
- SamTrans is nearing completion of its Service Plan, which is making a wide range of changes that should attract more riders. For more information, visit [www.samtrans.com/ssp](http://www.samtrans.com/ssp).
- Workers commuting into the county on public transit have a median trip duration of almost 90 minutes versus close to 45 minutes for those commuting to work within the county by public transit.

Local commuters boarding Caltrain. Photo courtesy of Mary Knuckles.



# Housing



## Why is this Important?

San Mateo County has some of the highest housing costs in the nation. A lack of affordable housing limits the ability of people to live in the county and can reduce the availability of qualified workers for local jobs, thereby constraining economic growth. In response to high housing prices, many workers are forced to either live outside the county and face long commutes or stretch themselves financially and pay more than they really can afford for housing. Approximately 60% of those employed in San Mateo County commute in from other counties for work, which leads to increased traffic congestion and vehicle-related emissions.

After declining for several years, housing prices and rents in the county are on the rise. Increased property values may be welcome news for many current homeowners, but for first-time buyers or people relocating to the area, it only exacerbates the difficulty of purchasing a home in the county. At the same time that housing costs are rising, median household income in the county has been on a declining trend, down 9% from 2007–2011.

The county’s housing supply shortage is a primary driver of high housing costs. The Regional Housing Need Allocation (RHNA) is part of a state-mandated process to increase the supply of housing throughout California. The 2007–2014 RHNA target for San Mateo County was 16,000 new housing units, and as of January 2013, the county had only reached 28% completion of the goal. With the county’s population projected to increase by approximately 66,000 people between now and 2030, the need for new housing is likely to grow further.

## What is a Sustainable State?

In a sustainable state, a sufficient supply of housing is available to all members of society, and new housing supports diverse communities and healthy environments. Local governments consider the housing needs of people of all income levels when planning for new development. Zoning regulations allow for dense hous-

ing located along transit corridors to meet the needs of our growing population and to help reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

### Indicators and Trends

<b>Housing Affordability</b>	↓	<i>Negative trend</i>
<b>Housing Stock</b>	↓	<i>Negative trend</i>
<b>Housing Supply</b>	↓	<i>Negative trend</i>

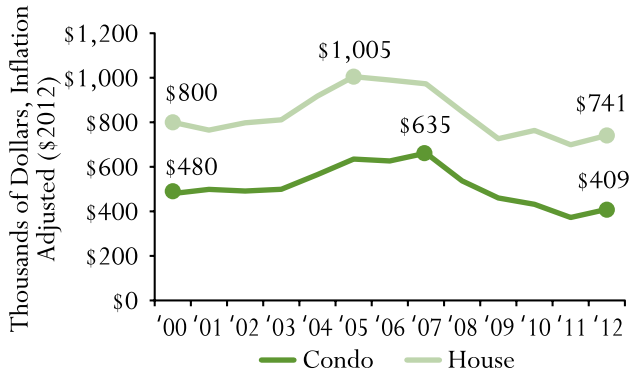
## Key Findings

- Housing prices are beginning to rise after several years of declines. In 2012, the median sales price for a single family home in the county was just over \$740,000, a 6% increase from the year prior.
- Average rental prices have increased in the last two years, up nearly 20% for one and two bedroom apartments.
- Only 47% of households in the county can afford an entry-level home, compared with 71% in all of California.
- Over 39% of households in the county with a mortgage are paying more than 35% of their income on housing; and 43% of renters in the county pay more than 35% of household income on their gross rent.
- Nearly 45% of the county’s housing stock was built before 1959, and only 22% has been built since 1980. This makes the county’s housing stock considerably older than California’s.
- As of January 2013, the county had only reached 28% of its RHNA goal of 16,000 new housing units. There is a significant gap in percent of target units built for above-moderate income units (44%) versus very-low income units (15%).



## Housing Affordability

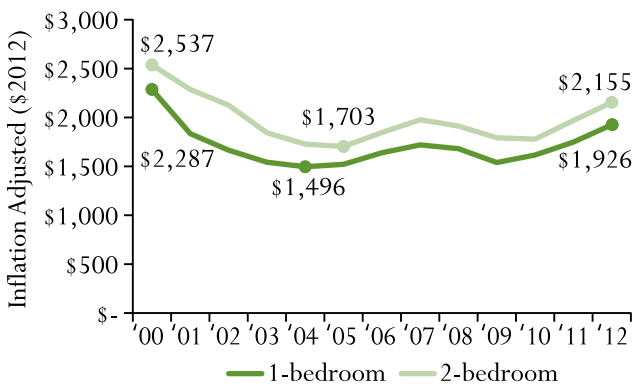
**Median Sales Price, San Mateo County  
2000-2012**



Data Source: San Mateo County Association of Realtors.

- After several years of declines, housing prices are beginning to rise. From 2011–2012, the median sales price (MSP) for a house increased 6%, while the MSP for condos rose 10%.
- MSP varies greatly in the county, from a high of \$3,200,000 in Atherton to a low of \$285,000 in East Palo Alto. For a listing of MSP for all cities, see page 36.

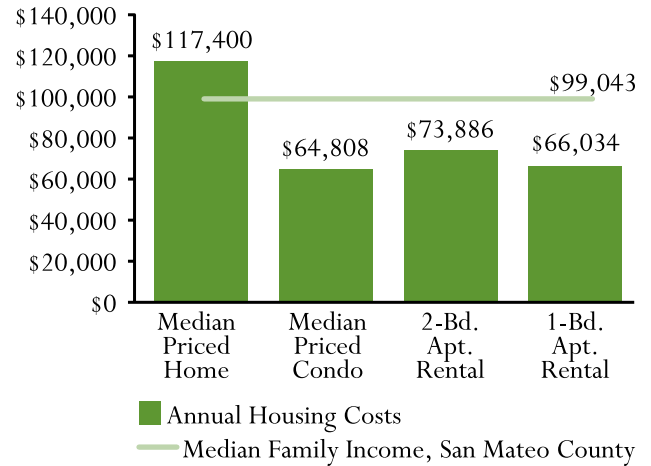
**Market Average Rent, San Mateo County  
2000-2012**



Data Source: San Mateo County Department of Housing

- Market average rent has increased sharply in the last two years: +19% for a 1-bedroom unit and +21% for a 2-bedroom unit.

**Household Income Needed to Afford Annual  
Housing Costs, San Mateo County, 2012**



Data Sources: San Mateo County Association of Realtors; San Mateo County Department of Housing; U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey; Freddie Mac; Wells Fargo

- The chart does not factor in the down-payment required to purchase a home, just the annual costs of owning the home (assumes housing costs are 35% of gross annual income).
- A median priced home in the county is out of reach for a household earning the county’s median family income (for a family of three).

### Housing Endowment and Regional Trust (HEART) of San Mateo County

HEART was formed in 2003 as a public/private partnership between the cities, the unincorporated county, businesses, and nonprofits. The mission of HEART is to raise funds to meet the critical housing needs of San Mateo County. The organization has raised over \$12 million in funding and has invested over \$8.8 million into the construction, renovation, or purchase of more than 805 homes.

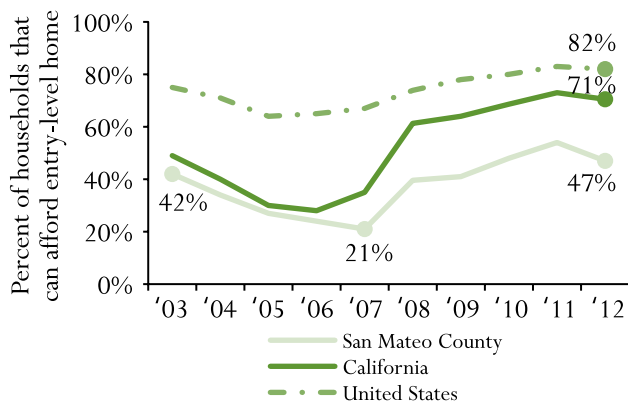
For more information, visit [www.heartofsmc.org](http://www.heartofsmc.org).



## Housing Affordability, continued

**Housing Affordability Index:** The first-time buyer housing affordability index tracks the percent of households in a geographic area that can afford an entry level home (defined as 85% of the prevailing median price).

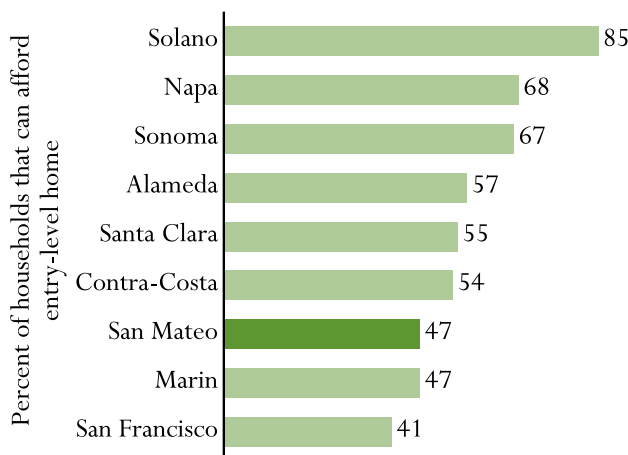
### First-Time Buyer Housing Affordability Index 2003-2012 (Q4)



Data Source: California Association of Realtors. All data is from the fourth quarter (Q4).

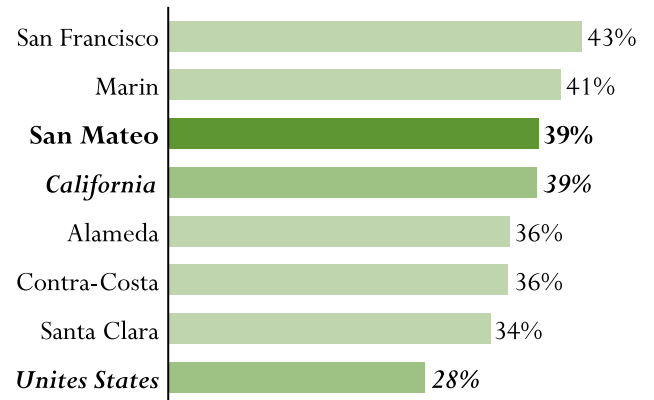
- After improving for several years, first-time buyer housing affordability declined in 2012 in all the areas shown above. Only 47% of county households can afford an entry-level home versus 82% of households nationwide.

### First Time Buyer Housing Affordability Index Bay Area Counties, Q4 2012



Data Source: California Association of Realtors

### Percent of Households Paying more than 35% of HH Income on Monthly Owner Housing Costs, 2011



Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey

- For personal housing costs to be at a sustainable level, they should be no more than 35% of gross annual income. Close to 40% of households in the county with a mortgage are paying an unsustainable amount of income on housing.
- For rental units in San Mateo County, 43% of residents pay more than 35% of household income on their gross rent.

## San Mateo County Coalition for Local Affordable Housing Funding

In 2012, California dissolved Redevelopment Agencies (RDA) as part of efforts to balance the budget. Prior to their dissolution, RDAs received a portion of local property tax revenue to use for economic development (80%) and affordable housing (20%), and these funds were a vital source of financing for affordable housing in the county.

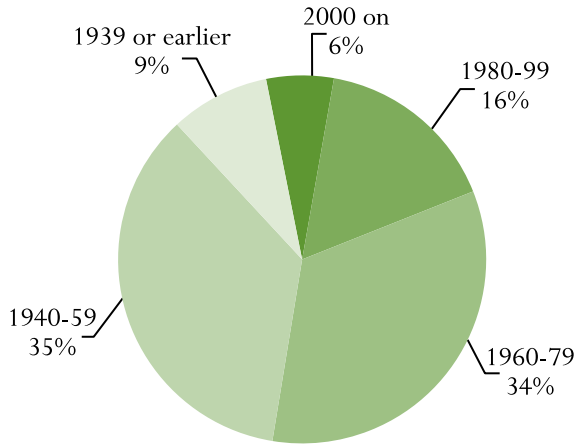
The portion of property tax that previously went to RDA will now be distributed to 63 tax-receiving entities in San Mateo County. The San Mateo County Coalition for Local Affordable Housing Funding, of which SSMC is a member, is asking that the funds previously dedicated to affordable housing by law now be dedicated to affordable housing by choice.

For more information, visit [www.hlcsmc.org](http://www.hlcsmc.org).



## Housing Stock

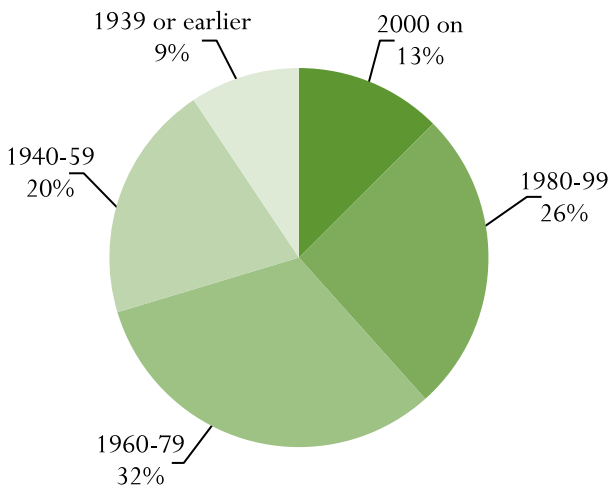
Year Housing Structures Built  
San Mateo County



Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey

- Nearly 45% of the county’s housing stock was built before 1959, and only 22% has been built since 1980.

Year Housing Structures Built  
California



Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey

- In comparison, California has a much newer housing stock, with less than 30% built before 1959 and nearly 40% built since 1980.

## Housing Supply

**Regional Housing Need Allocation:** The Regional Housing Need Allocation (RHNA) is part of a state-mandated process that creates housing production targets for each county based on existing need and forecasted population and job growth. The goals are to increase the supply of housing and also to ensure that local governments consider the housing needs of people of all income levels. Production targets are broken down by income, with housing goals set in each county for very-low, low, moderate, and above-moderate income levels.

The 2007–2014 RHNA target for San Mateo County was 16,000 new housing units, with 39% of these required to be affordable housing (very-low and low income). As of January 2013, only 4,400 new units had been built for this RHNA period, placing the county at 28% completion of the goal. There is a discrepancy in completion rates for above-moderate income units (44%) versus very-low income units (15%).

CITIES WITH HIGHEST PERCENT OF  
RHNA HOUSING GOALS MET

City	Target Units	Current Units	Percent Reached
Millbrae	452	358	79%
San Bruno	973	738	76%
Foster City	486	300	62%
South San Francisco	1,635	947	58%

Data Source: SSMC 2013 City Survey

- Millbrae and San Bruno have met the highest percentage of RHNA targets of all cities in the county, both reaching over 75% of their goal.
- The Final RHNA for 2014–2022 is scheduled for release in summer 2013. The draft release set a target of nearly 188,000 new units for the entire Bay Area. San Mateo County’s allocation is at just over 16,400 units, with 43% of those to be affordable housing.
- For the RHNA targets for all cities in the county, visit <http://www.abag.ca.gov/planning/housing-needs/>



# Innovation and Economic Growth

## Why is this Important?

Scientific and technological innovation is the process of continuous improvement, renewal, and change to create more effective processes, treatments, goods, or services. It is a key catalyst for prosperity and human well-being. Through innovation, new ideas like the personal computer, cell phone, drugs to fight cancer, and photovoltaic panels get turned into valuable products that in turn help people live better, more productive lives.

San Mateo County is part of two overlapping highly successful regional innovation clusters: Silicon Valley in the South and San Francisco-Berkeley in the North. While Silicon Valley’s growth first centered on inventions in the semiconductor industry, the conglomeration of so many highly-skilled workers created dense flows of knowledge that have led to new innovations in related and new fields: personal computers, software, consumer electronics, biotechnology, the Internet, social media, and cleantech. The proximity of innovation incubators, skilled workers, venture capital, and business expertise has allowed the area to expand and has driven growth in other sectors like retail, food services, and real estate.

Venture Capital (VC), which provides financing to early-stage growth startup companies, plays a key role in bringing new ideas and inventions to market. VC firms offer not only financial capital, but also give start-up companies the talent and experience of seasoned industry leaders to help them succeed.

Technological innovation is now more dependent than ever on a highly-skilled workforce trained in the fields of science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM). A report by the U.S. Department of Labor found that while only 5% of the U.S. workforce is employed in STEM jobs, these fields are responsible for more than 50% of our country’s current and projected economic growth. With a shortage of U.S. workers trained in these fields, Silicon Valley companies are bringing in STEM workers from other countries.

## What is a Sustainable State?

In a sustainable state, regional innovation and a highly skilled workforce encourage a continual flow of new ideas. The education system encourages more students to graduate from college. Venture capital and government investment help start-up companies and nascent industries bring inventions to market. Innovation boosts the regional economy, encourages resource use efficiency, and drives growth in other sectors like retail and food services.

Indicators and Trends		
Skilled Workforce	↔	No clear trend
Location Quotient	↔	No clear trend
VC Funding	↔	No clear trend
Growth: Total Taxable Sales	↑	Positive trend
Green Business	↑	Positive trend

## Key Findings

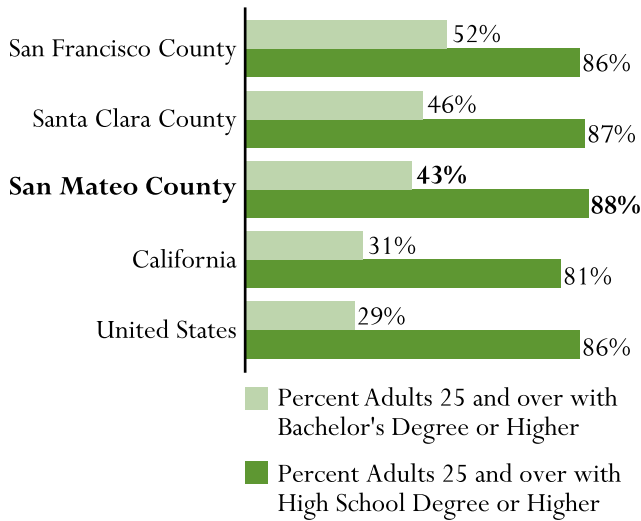
- 43% of adults (25+ years) in San Mateo County have at least a bachelors degree. This is higher than state and national rates but below San Francisco, Santa Clara, and Marin counties.
- 14% of the county’s workforce is employed in STEM-related fields versus 5% for the U.S. and 6% for California.
- Total Venture Capital (VC) investment in Silicon Valley in 2012 was \$10.8 billion, down 8% from the year prior mostly because of declines in cleantech and life sciences. In Q4 of 2012, seven companies in the county received \$20 million or more in VC funding.
- As of March 2013, 63 companies in the county had been certified as green businesses under the San Mateo County Green Business Program.





## Skilled Workforce

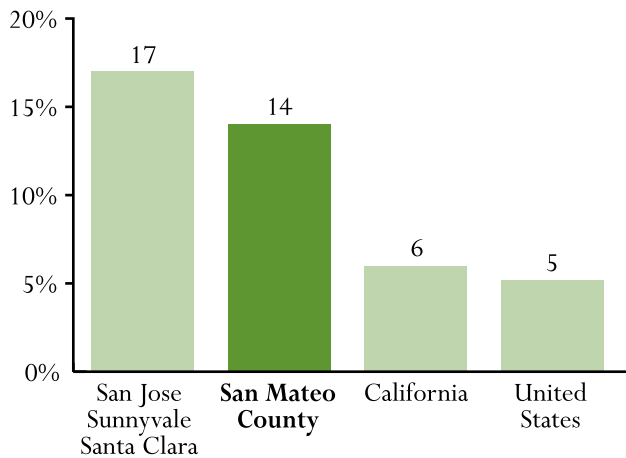
**Educational Attainment of Workforce, 2011**



Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey

- San Mateo County is well ahead of state and national rates for workforce educational attainment.

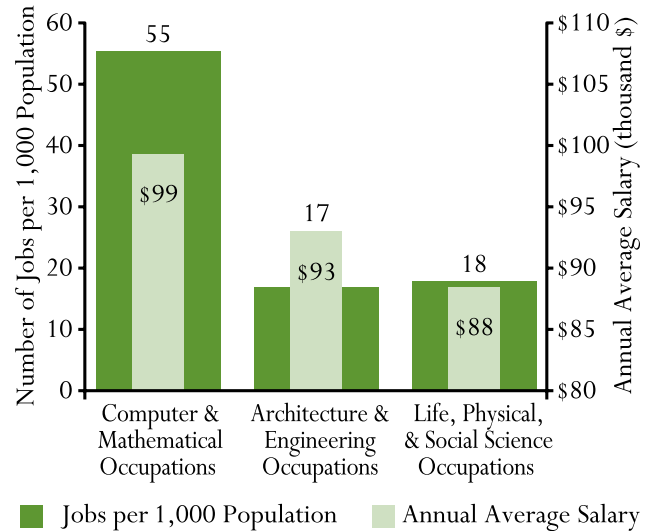
**Percent of Workforce in STEM Jobs, 2011**



Data Sources: Economic Modeling Specialists International; U.S. Census Bureau, Public Use Microdata Sample (PUMS) website

- The county's percentage of workforce in STEM jobs is higher than the state and national averages, but below Santa Clara County.

**STEM Jobs in San Francisco-San Mateo-Redwood City Metropolitan Area, 2011**



Data Source: Bureau of Labour Statistics

- The majority of STEM jobs in the county's metropolitan area are in computer and mathematical occupations.

### Losing the Edge

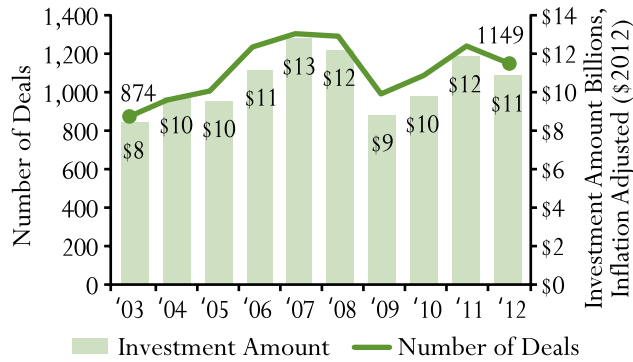
Jobs in STEM related fields in the U.S. have grown three times faster than non-STEM jobs over the last 10 years, and STEM workers earn 26% more than their non-STEM counterparts. Over the next decade, STEM jobs are projected to grow nationwide by 17% versus 9.8% for other fields.

Having workers trained in these fields is vital for continued innovation and economic growth, but our education system has not been able to keep up with the growth in this field. Currently only 33% of bachelor's degrees awarded in the U.S. are in STEM fields versus 53% for China and 63% for Japan. Women and minorities are especially underrepresented in these fields. Although they make up half of the U.S. workforce, females hold less than 25% of STEM-related jobs.



## Venture Capital

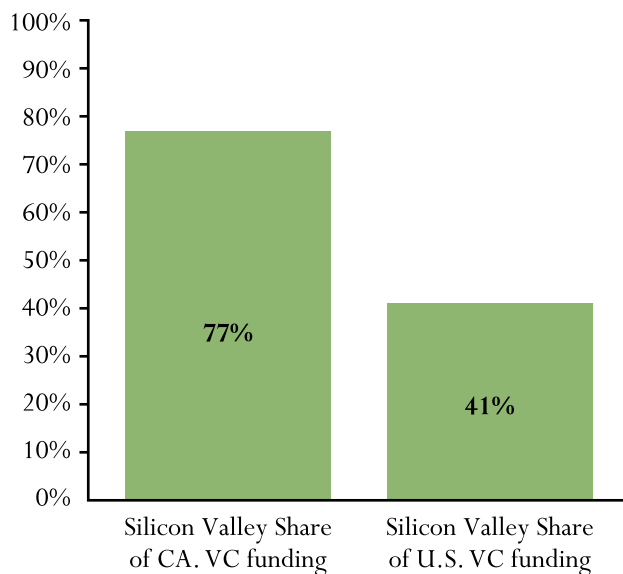
**Venture Capital Funding  
Silicon Valley, 2003–2012**



Data Source: MoneyTree Report, Pricewaterhouse Coopers. Data provided by Thomson Reuters.

- In 2012, there were 1,149 Venture Capital (VC) deals in Silicon Valley, totaling over \$10.8 billion in investments. Total investment amount is down 8% from the year prior, mostly because of decreases in cleantech and life sciences.

**Share of Silicon Valley Venture Capital Funding  
in California and the U.S., 2012**



Data Sources: MoneyTree Report, Pricewaterhouse Coopers. Data provided by Thomson Reuters

- In 2012, 77% of all California VC funding and 41% of all U.S. VC funding went to Silicon Valley companies.

**TOP SAN MATEO COUNTY COMPANIES BY  
AMOUNT OF VC FUNDING, Q4 2012**

Company	Amount	Industry
Guavus, Inc.	\$30.0M	IT Services
Crescendo Bioscience, Inc.	\$28.5M	Biotechnology
Pearl Therapeutics, Inc.	\$23.3M	Biotechnology
Xtime, Inc.	\$23.0M	Software
Platfora, Inc.	\$20.0M	Software
Rafter, Inc.	\$20.0M	Software
Lattice Engines, Inc.	\$20.0M	IT Services
Ceterix Orthopedics, Inc.	\$19.5M	Medical Devices and Equipment
FRS Company, The	\$18.0M	Consumer Products and Services
InfoArmy, Inc	\$17.3M	Software

Data Sources: MoneyTree Report, Pricewaterhouse Coopers. Data provided by Thomson Reuters

### Samsung's Innovation Center

In February 2013, Samsung announced the opening of its new Samsung Strategy & Innovation Center in Silicon Valley. Their goal is to tap into the innovation of Silicon Valley and build collaborations with their nine product divisions to generate new ideas and products. Research fellows based at the center will reach out to mentor local entrepreneurs.

One of Samsung's reasons for opening the center is concern that the VC industry is moving away from the earliest stage of investments that can often lead to the biggest breakthroughs. The \$100 million Samsung Catalyst Fund will invest in early-stage and seed-stage start-ups.

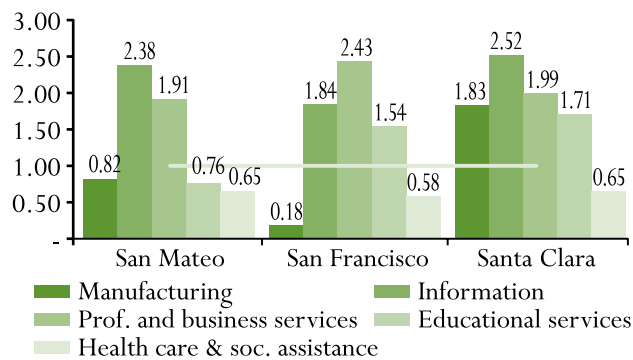


## Location Quotient

The location quotient (“LQ”) shows industry strength in a region by comparing the job concentration in a particular sector with that sector’s national average. A score of one means the concentration in jobs is equal to the national average, higher than one means a larger share than the national average, and lower than one means a smaller share.

Industries with high LQs often bring money into a region and through the multiplier effect create jobs in other industries like retail and food services. Industries with high LQs as well as high job numbers form a region’s economic base, but can also leave the region prone to economic disruption in the event of decline in that sector. Industries with lower LQs can be targets for new investment and can increase the diversity of a region’s economic composition.

**Location Quotients for Select Sectors and Counties, 2011**



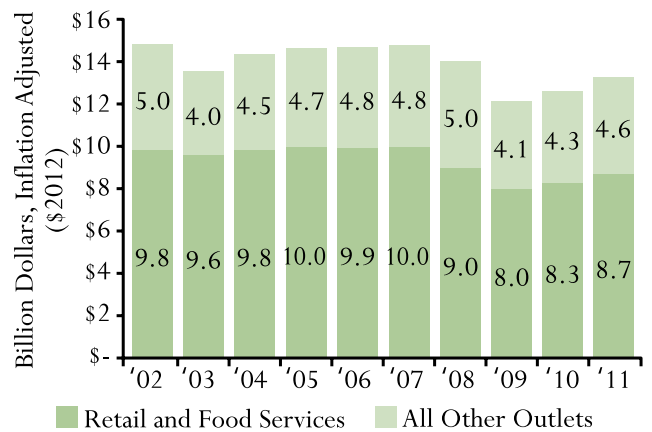
Data Source: Bureau of Labour Statistics

- The Information sector has very high LQ scores in San Mateo County and its bordering counties, but only makes up 5% of total employment in the county.
- The Professional & Business Services sector is also strong and makes up 20% of the county’s workforce.
- San Mateo County has a lower share of the workforce than the national average in manufacturing, educational services, and healthcare and social assistance.

## Economic Growth: Total Taxable Sales

Total taxable sales shows retail sales activity for all transactions subject to sales tax and is an important barometer for overall economic activity in a region.

**Total Taxable Sales  
San Mateo County, 2002-2011**



Data source: California State Library, Library Development Services Bureau

- Total taxable sales in 2011 (the latest year for which data are available) were \$13.3 billion, an increase of 5% from the year prior.
- In 2009, there was a sharp dropoff in taxable sales. Although the last two years showed improvement, 2011 taxable sales are still 10% lower than 2002 sales.
- Food services and drinking places, motor vehicle dealers, and gasoline stations make up nearly half of the total taxable sales for retail and food services.



## Green Business

A growing number of businesses in the U.S. are recognizing the value of going green—from reducing GHG emissions and using resources more efficiently to building and portraying their brands as more sustainable.

Analysis from the Economic Policy Institute found that green industries are growing faster than the overall economy and that states with a higher share of green jobs have generally fared better during the Great Recession. Manufacturing plays a key role in the green economy, and green jobs are accessible to workers having completed certificate programs or without a college degree. Green jobs also extend far beyond the energy sector, with employment opportunities in the water, pollution prevention, agriculture, IT, and services sectors.

### City of San Carlos Green Business Awards

In January 2013, the San Carlos Chamber of Commerce, the City of San Carlos, and the nonprofit San Carlos Green awarded three local businesses with San Carlos Green Business Awards. Energy conservation awards went to AU Energy and Dennco Heating for their participation in the PG&E pilot program that encouraged small and medium sized businesses to reduce their energy use before the new “time of day” rates took effect in November 2012 (see San Carlos in the City Reports, page 78). AU Energy cut over 33,000 Kilowatt Hours, and Dennco Heating & Plumbing cut over 23,000 Kilowatt Hours.

McDonalds received an award in the Recycling and Composting category for increasing its diversion rate of all materials from 50% to 67%. They were one of several local businesses to partner with Recology to learn how to simultaneously increase diversion while also reducing operating costs.

### San Mateo County Green Business Program

In March 2013, after a one and a half year program stop, San Mateo County and RecycleWorks re-launched their countywide green business certification program, with a goal of re-certifying 100 businesses by January. The program’s certification criteria are tied to the Association of Bay Area Government’s Green Business Program and in line with the expanding California Green Business Program.

While the program is tailored to individual business types, some of the standard criteria that apply to most businesses are: using recycled content paper and copying double-sided; using efficient lighting systems; promoting walking, biking, or public transit; buying alternative energy/hybrid vehicles; remodeling with green materials such as low-Volatile Organic Compound (VOC) paint; and conserving water with low-flow toilets and faucet aerators.

For more information on the program, including how to apply, contact Kim Springer at (650) 599-1412 or go to [RecycleWorks.org](http://RecycleWorks.org).

#### GREEN BUSINESS CERTIFICATIONS SAN MATEO COUNTY, FEBRUARY 2013

Type of Business	Number of Certified Businesses
Services: Finance, Insurance, Real Estate, Health, Auto, etc.	26
Food & Drink	19
Government Sites	11
Housing/ Hotel	4
Retail	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>63</b>

*Data Source: San Mateo County Green Business Program*

# Economy at a Glance

City/County	Median Household Income (2011)	Unemployment Rate (2011)	Median Home Sales Price (2012)	Change in Median Sales Price (2011-2012)	Total Taxable Sales Receipts (thousand 2011 US\$)	Change in Taxable Sales Receipts (2010-11)
Atherton	\$250,000+	6.8%	\$3,200,000	-3%	\$20,533	55.2%
Belmont	\$102,495	6.9%	\$912,000	5%	\$241,659	2.9%
Brisbane	\$80,767	9.2%	\$597,500	7%	\$414,818	5.1%
Burlingame	\$81,411	5.9%	\$1,300,000	9%	\$763,518	3.3%
Colma	\$82,648	5.4%	\$432,500	1%	\$662,071	4.2%
Daly City	\$76,959	9.4%	\$485,000	5%	\$844,326	4.1%
East Palo Alto	\$51,175	11.6%	\$285,000	12%	\$274,054	5.9%
Foster City	\$117,434	6.7%	\$1,000,000	8%	\$409,997	6.4%
Half Moon Bay	\$98,199	8.7%	\$735,500	9%	\$195,907	9.3%
Hillsborough	\$226,728	7.1%	\$2,750,000	25%	\$9,083	45.5%
Menlo Park	\$113,546	6.6%	\$1,325,000	11%	\$543,925	-3.5%
Millbrae	\$85,730	6.3%	\$910,000	6%	\$201,063	1.5%
Pacifica	\$95,370	7.4%	\$520,000	5%	\$157,079	3.2%
Portola Valley	\$173,730	7.7%	\$2,200,000	19%	\$15,163	15.2%
Redwood City	\$78,707	7.3%	\$787,500	15%	\$1,551,074	3.6%
San Bruno	\$79,071	7.2%	\$536,187	2%	\$618,839	7.1%
San Carlos	\$121,325	6.5%	\$1,000,000	8%	\$628,819	2.3%
San Mateo	\$88,568	6.6%	\$778,000	10%	\$1,478,774	8.2%
South San Francisco	\$77,106	6.3%	\$500,750	4%	\$1,058,639	3.1%
Woodside	\$227,601	4.9%	\$1,605,000	-11%	\$43,122	0.1%
<b>Unincorporated SMC</b>	<b>NA</b>	<b>NA</b>	<b>NA</b>	<b>NA</b>	<b>NA</b>	<b>NA</b>
<b>San Mateo County</b>	<b>\$83,347</b>	<b>6.8%</b>	<b>\$740,908</b>	<b>6%</b>	<b>\$13,020,643</b>	<b>5.5%</b>

Data Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey; San Mateo County Association of Realtors (SAMCAR); California State Board of Equalization.  
 Unemployment rate for county is from 2012 (city rates are from 2011). Median household income inflation adjusted (\$2012).

NA = not available or not applicable

# Equity



*A socially equitable community provides all members fair access to a good education, a safe neighborhood, and services that enable even the least affluent to meet their basic needs.*

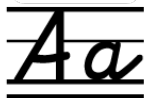
## Community Cohesion and Safety



## Community Health



## Education



## Equity by the Numbers

**5,829,000:** Visits to public libraries in the county in 2011; down slightly from 2010, but 43% higher than in 2003.

**736,362:** Total population in San Mateo County in 2012.

**288,592:** Number of San Mateo County voters who cast ballots in the November, 2012 Presidential Election, representing 80% of registered voters and the highest turnout since 1992.

**66,926:** Projected population growth in the county between 2012 and 2030.

**17,962:** Per pupil expenditures (in 2011 dollars) in the Woodside Elementary School District in 2010–11. The Woodside District has the highest level of per pupil funding in the county, while Millbrae Elementary, with \$7,299 per student, has the lowest.

**1592:** Average SAT score of San Mateo County students in the 2010-11 school year; ranking 5th out of the 9 Bay Area counties.

**22:** Percent of adults in the county who are considered obese (Body mass index of 30 or higher), up from 13% in 1998.

**12.3:** Percent of county adults (18-64) who lack health insurance. For those with a high school diploma or less, the uninsured rate climbs to 23%.

**7.7:** Percent of county residents living below the Federal Poverty Level in 2011. San Mateo County has the lowest poverty rate of the 9 Bay Area counties.

**4.6:** The high school dropout rate for Asian students, the lowest of all races/ethnicities in the county.

Some people strengthen society just by being the kind of people they are.  
—John W. Gardener

# Community Cohesion and Safety



## Why is this Important?

Community cohesion, the “glue” holding together the members of a community, provides people with a sense of belonging and empowerment. Within a cohesive community, members are actively engaged in the well-being of the group, and they look out for and support one another. This sense of belonging not only strengthens communities, but it also offers health and emotional benefits to its members. Studies have found that social isolation is associated with increased morbidity and early mortality, and its health risks are on par with the risk from cigarette smoking.

While it is important for adults to feel a sense of belonging, it is crucial for children, who depend upon adults to provide them with a safe environment in which to grow and learn. Childhood trauma, including physical and sexual injury, neglect, or lack of supervision, can result in lifelong social impairment and affect academic performance. Since 1970, the percent of family households in the U.S. headed by single parents has tripled. Single-parent families are more likely to live in poverty and under stressful conditions; both put children at increased risk for poor academic achievement and behavioral and health-related problems.

When people feel safe, they are more likely to be active and engaged in their communities. High rates of crime can weaken the morale, resiliency, and civic engagement of residents and can lead to blight and disorder, thus attracting more crime and deterring economic development. Violent crime can cause physical and emotional harm to victims, while also impacting people in surrounding areas as exposure to violence is associated with increased levels of trauma and victimization.

## What is a Sustainable State?

In a sustainable state, adults and children feel social-emotional connections to their communities. Adults are active and engaged in the civic process, and voter participation rates are high. The poverty rate is low, and support services help those most in need. Crime rates

are low, businesses and commerce thrive, and communities have safe neighborhoods, recreation areas, and schools. Instances of child abuse are rare, and all children grow up in nurturing and caring environments.

### Indicators and Trends

<b>Community Connectedness</b>	↔	<i>No clear trend</i>
<b>Healthy Families</b>	↔	<i>No clear trend</i>
<b>Civic Engagement: Voter Participation</b>	↑	<i>Positive trend</i>
<b>Civic Engagement: Library Usage</b>	↑	<i>Positive trend</i>
<b>Crime &amp; Safety</b>	↑	<i>Positive trend</i>
<b>Poverty</b>	↓	<i>Negative trend</i>

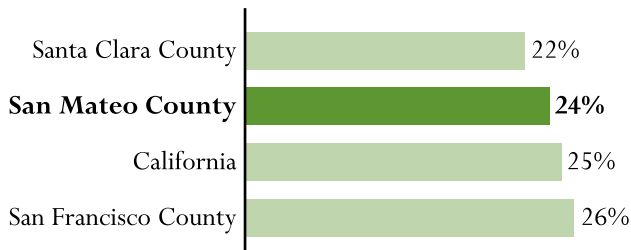
## Key Findings

- Close to one quarter of adults in San Mateo County lack sufficient social-emotional support.
- While the county’s child abuse referral rate (27 referrals per 1,000 children) is much lower than California’s (52), significant disparities exist by race/ethnicity.
- Over 20% of the families in the county with children under 18 are headed by a single parent, which is below the rate for California (31%). Of the county’s single-parent households, 70% are headed by a female.
- The county’s violent crime rate in 2010 (237 per 100,000 population) was well below California’s (422) and was down 23% from 2001 levels.
- In 2011, the poverty rate for San Mateo County was 7.7%, an increase from the year prior but still well below state (16.6%) and national (15.9%) rates. The child poverty rate for the county is 10% but rises to 19% for children in single-mother households.



## Community Connectedness

### Percent of Adults Lacking Adequate Social-Emotional Support

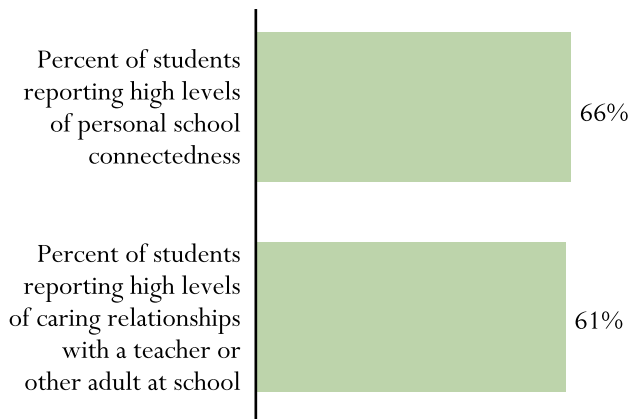


Percent of adults that never, rarely, or sometimes get the social/emotional support they need. Data from 2005-2010.

Data Source: County Health Rankings & Roadmap by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

- Nearly one in four adults in the county lacks sufficient social-emotional support.

### School Protective and Connectedness Factors 5th Graders, San Mateo County, 2009-2011

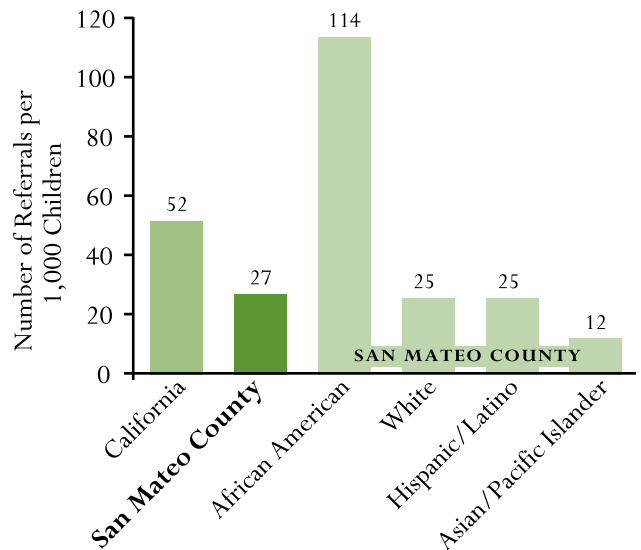


Data Source: California Healthy Kids Survey, San Mateo County Elementary, 2009-2011

- The majority of fifth grade students in San Mateo County public schools report high levels of connectedness to their school and a caring relationship with a teacher or other adult at their school.

## Healthy Families

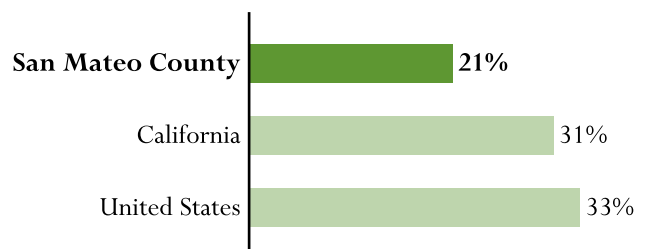
### Child Abuse Referral Rate, 2011



Data Source: California Department of Social Services, Child Welfare Dynamic Report System

- Although the county's child abuse referral rate is low compared with California, there are disparities by race/ethnicity, with African American children having the highest rates.

### Percent of Households With Children (under 18 years of age) Headed by a Single-Parent, 2011



Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey

- Over 20% of the families in the county with children under 18 are headed by a single parent. Of these single-parent households, 70% are headed by a female.





## Civic Engagement: Voter Participation

**Voter Turnout for Select Counties and the State, 11/6/12 Election**



Data Sources: San Mateo County Assessor; California Secretary of State

- For the 2012 Presidential Election, 80% of registered San Mateo County voters cast a ballot, the highest percentage turnout since 1992. Vote by mail is increasing in popularity and represented 58% of total ballots cast in the county.
- For voter participation by city, see page 50.

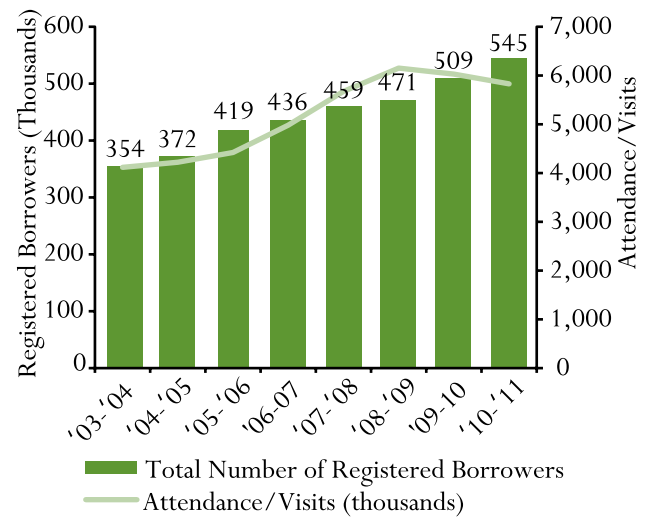
### Burlingame Neighborhood Network

Recent studies show that personal connections among neighbors dramatically improve the chances of survival during and after a disaster. Building on this learning, the Burlingame Neighborhood Network (BNN) program encourages residents to get acquainted and prepare for disasters. This connectedness also helps prevent crime since neighbors who know one another also know who doesn't belong in their neighborhood.

BNN offers resources and speakers to help residents form their own Neighborhood Networks. Once a network is formed, neighbors work together to generate a neighborhood contact directory, assemble emergency kits, create family evacuation plans, learn crime prevention tips, and take free or low-cost emergency training courses. For more information, email: [info@theneighborhood-network.org](mailto:info@theneighborhood-network.org).

## Civic Engagement: Library Usage

**Public Library Registered Borrowers and Attendance, San Mateo County, 2003-2010**



Data source: California State Library, Library Development Services Bureau

- The number of registered borrowers and library attendance at county public libraries have both shown positive increases since 2003, up 54% and 42% respectively.
- Although the number of registered borrowers keeps increasing, visits have gone down slightly from 2009–2011.

### The Tuesday Harvest

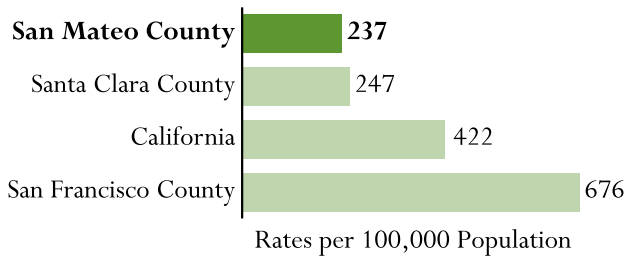
Portola Valley hosts a monthly community green speaker series called the “Tuesday Harvest,” that brings residents together to learn about fresh, local ideas for living more sustainably. Recent topics include: *GreenSense for Your Home: We Can't Afford NOT to Build Green Buildings*, and *Eating Local: Benefits that Extend Beyond the Palate & the Plate*.

For more information, visit [portolavalley.net](http://portolavalley.net).



## Crime and Safety

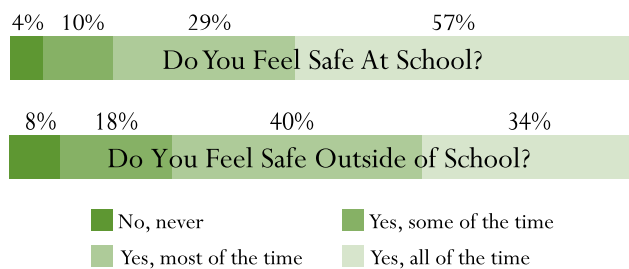
### Violent Crime Rate, 2010



Data Source: State of California Department of Justice, Office of the Attorney General's Criminal Justice Statistics Center

- In committing a violent crime, the offender uses or threatens to use force upon a victim. Overall, violent crime in the county dropped 23% from 2001-2010.
- Aggravated assault (where the offender attempts to cause serious bodily injury to another) and robbery made up 92% of violent crimes in the county in 2010 (the latest year for which data are available), while homicides (1%) and rapes (7%) represented a much smaller portion.

### Perceptions of Safety, 5th Grade Students San Mateo County, 2009-2011

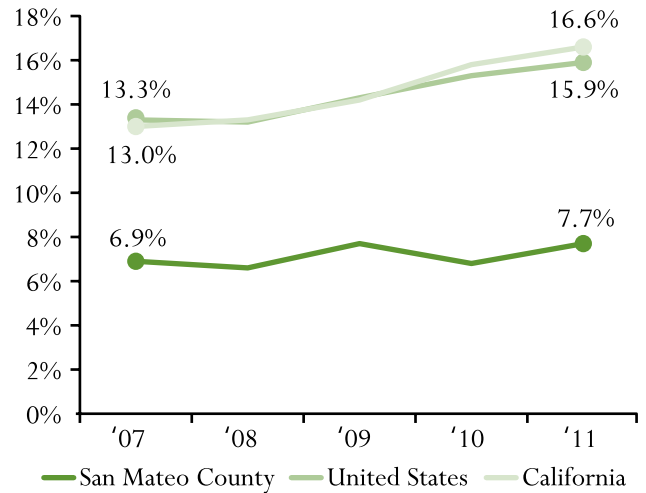


Data Source: California Healthy Kids Survey, San Mateo County Elementary, 2009-2011

- More fifth graders (86%) feel safe at school most or all of the time than outside of school (74%).

## Poverty

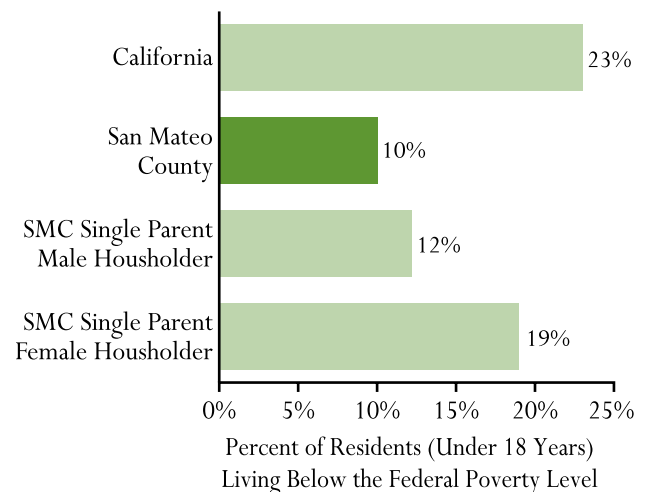
### Poverty Rate 2007-2011



Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey

- The poverty rate in 2011 (the latest year for which data are available) rose in all areas shown. For more information on poverty, including alternate poverty measures, see the Key Indicator, pages 11-18.

### Child Poverty Rates, 2011



Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey

- Child poverty rates are higher in the county and state than overall poverty rates. Children in single-parent households, especially those run by a female, are particularly affected by poverty.

# Community Health



## Why is this Important?

Community Health is the pursuit of improving the health of a group of people living in a defined geographical area. Access to high quality, affordable medical care in conjunction with urban planning that is responsive to public health objectives helps people live healthier, more productive lives. Rising healthcare cost along with large numbers of uninsured have made medical bills a main contributor to bankruptcy filings in the United States. Those who are insured have a lower mortality rate and are more apt to receive preventative care than the uninsured.

Chronic diseases, including cancer, heart disease, diabetes, and chronic respiratory disease, are the leading causes of death and disability in San Mateo County and the United States. With the aging of the county's population, chronic diseases will become more prevalent and place a growing burden on the local healthcare system.

Lifestyle behaviors including poor nutrition, tobacco use, and lack of physical activity are responsible for an estimated 50% of premature deaths. In particular, the obesity epidemic, with its associated diseases and disabilities, is the greatest public health issue in the county, threatening to overturn decades of gains in life expectancy.

## What is a Sustainable State?

In a sustainable state, all community members have access to affordable, high-quality medical care. Integrated approaches involving prevention and disease management lead to lower disease incidence, improved health outcomes, and reduced hospitalizations. Walkability, neighborhood safety, and access to healthy food and recreation are central elements of land use planning.

### Indicators and Trends

Access to Healthcare	↑	<i>Positive trend</i>
Causes of Death	↑	<i>Positive trend</i>
Prenatal and Maternal Care	↑	<i>Positive trend</i>
Healthy Behaviors and Risk Factors	↓	<i>Negative trend</i>

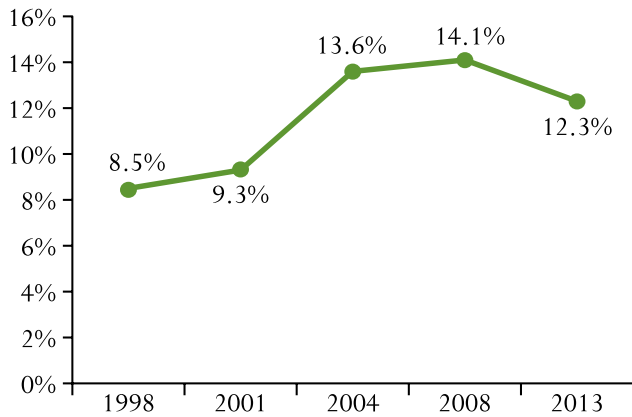
## Key Findings

- Overall, 12.3% of adults (18-64 years) in the county lack healthcare insurance. Low-income earners and people with a high school education or less had the lowest rates of coverage.
- Heart disease and cancer remain the most frequent causes of death in the county. Mortality by race/ethnicity shows that the gap between African Americans and other groups is narrowing.
- San Mateo County has already achieved the Healthy People 2020 target of 6 infant deaths per 1,000 live births in all racial/ethnic groups except African Americans (9.8 deaths per 1,000.)
- Obesity has risen to 22% among adults in 2013.
- Only 36% of the county's 7th graders met all 6 Basic Fitness Standards in 2010–2011, down from 41% in 2008–2009.
- The smoking rate in San Mateo County (10.1%) has declined sharply since 1998 and is well below California (12.9%) and U.S. (17.3%) levels.



## Access to Healthcare

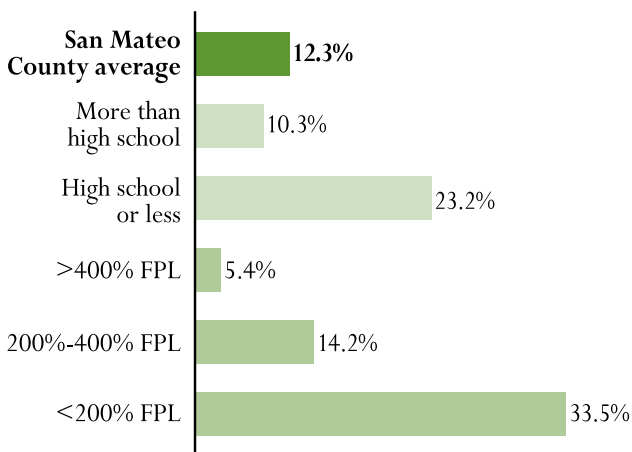
**Percent of Population (18-64) Lacking Healthcare Insurance, San Mateo County, 1998-2013**



Data Source: San Mateo County Health System

- In San Mateo County, 12.3% of adults below the age of 65 do not have healthcare insurance, an improvement from 2008.

**Percent of Population (18-64) Lacking Healthcare Insurance by Income and Educational Attainment San Mateo County, 2013**

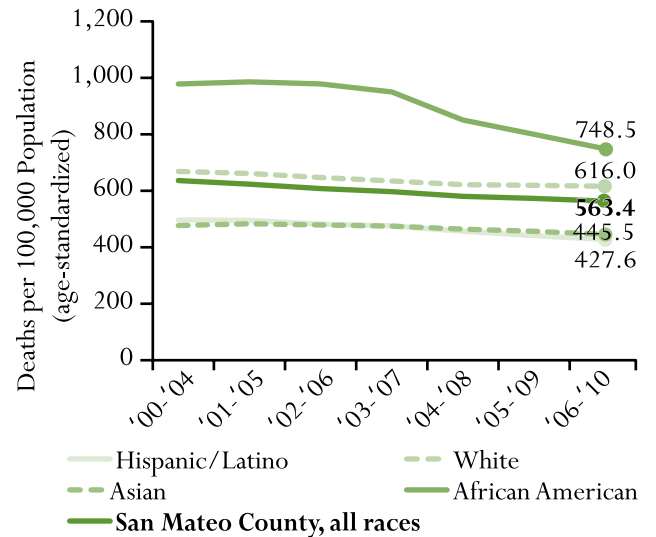


Data Source: San Mateo County Health System

- The county rate masks a steep gradient by income and level of education.

## Causes of Death

**Mortality by Race/Ethnicity, San Mateo County 5-Year Moving Averages, 2000-2010**



Data Source: San Mateo County Health Services

- African Americans saw the biggest drop in mortality (-11%).

**Annual Rates of Years of Potential Life Lost (YPLL) Top 5 Causes, San Mateo County, 2000-2010**



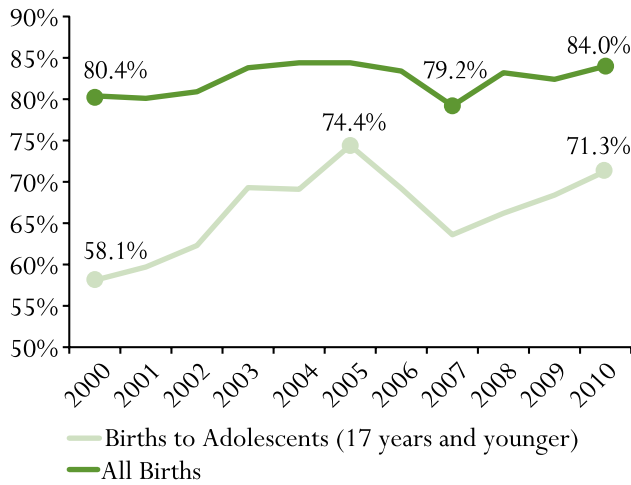
Data Source: San Mateo County Health Services

- Years of Potential Life Lost (YPLL) measures premature mortality by giving more weight to deaths that occur at younger ages.
- YPLL declined 33% from 2000 to 2010.



## Prenatal and Maternal Care

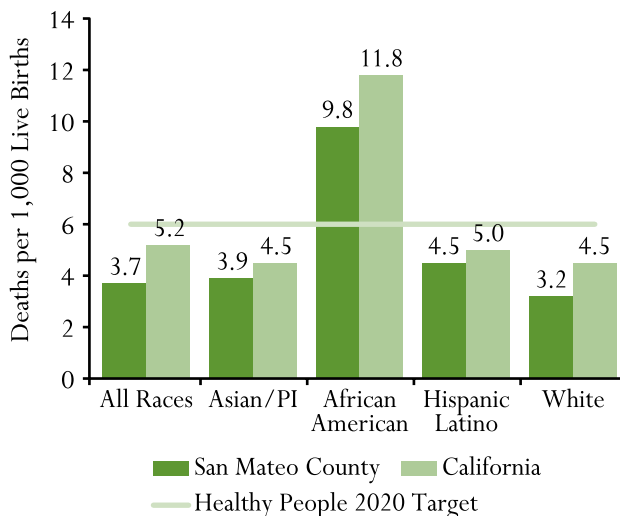
Percent of Births with Adequate Prenatal Care  
San Mateo County, 2000-2010



Data Source: San Mateo County Health System

- The share of adolescents giving birth with adequate prenatal care increased 23% since 2000.

Infant Mortality by Race/Ethnicity  
San Mateo County, 2008-2010

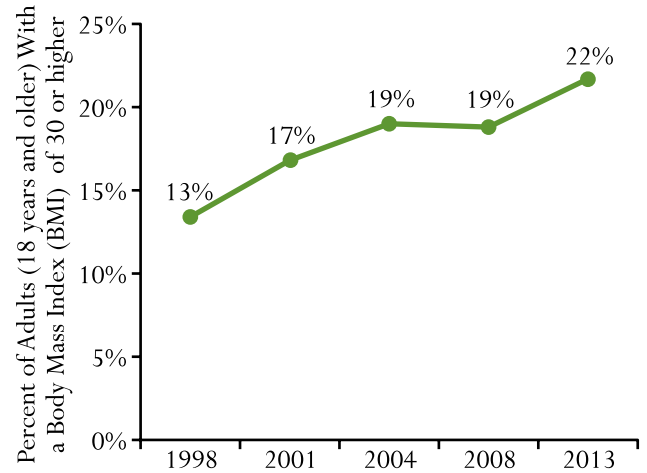


Data Source: San Mateo County Health System

- Infant mortality rates for all groups except African Americans are below the Healthy People 2020 target of 6 per 1,000 live births and lower than in the state and the U.S.

## Healthy Behaviors and Risk Factors

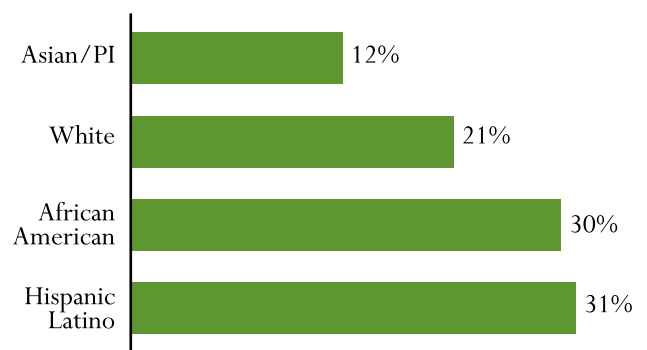
Adult Obesity, San Mateo County, 1998-2013



Data Source: San Mateo County Health System

- Obesity rates continue to climb and have reached 22% in San Mateo County. This is slightly lower than the state prevalence of 24% and far below the U.S. level of 36%

Obesity by Race/Ethnicity  
San Mateo County, 2013



Data Source: San Mateo County Health System

- Obesity rates are highest among Hispanics/Latinos (31%) and African Americans (30%) and lowest among Asians and Pacific Islanders (12%).



## Healthy Behaviors and Risk Factors, continued

### PERCENT OF CHILDREN WHO ARE OVERWEIGHT OR OBESE, 2011

	San Mateo County	California
Grade 5	24%	30%
Grade 7	26%	30%
Grade 9	26%	28%

Data Source: Lucile Packard Foundation for Children's Health, 2011

- The childhood obesity epidemic continues to pose risks for the health of children. Although the prevalence rate for overweight or obese is lower in the county than in the state as a whole, approximately one in four county children fall into this category with potential long-term implications for diabetes, heart disease, and premature mortality.

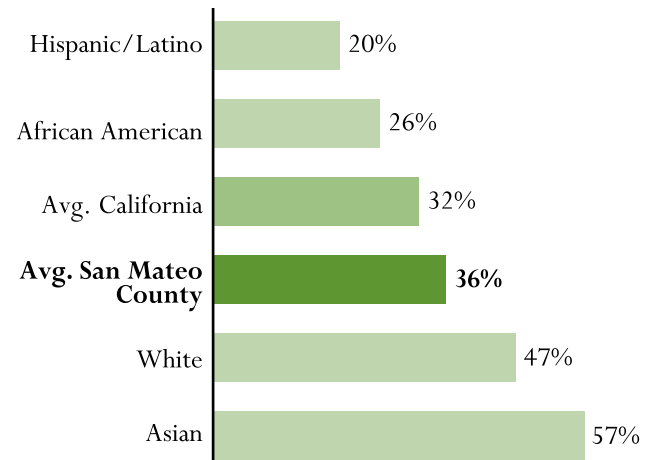
### Wellness Policies

Daly City and Burlingame are the first two cities in San Mateo County to receive funding from the countywide initiative Get Healthy San Mateo County. With this funding, the cities will adopt comprehensive wellness policies that will prohibit the serving of sugary drinks and improve the choice of healthy food options for city facilities/gatherings. In addition, innovative policies adopted by the cities will support active public transportation and include opportunities for exercise for staff and clients, such as “walking meetings” and stretch breaks. For more information on the wellness policies, visit [gethealthysmc.org](http://gethealthysmc.org).

*“The physical and emotional health of an entire generation and the economic health and security of our nation are at stake.”*

—First Lady Michele Obama at the launch of the Let's Move campaign on February 9, 2010

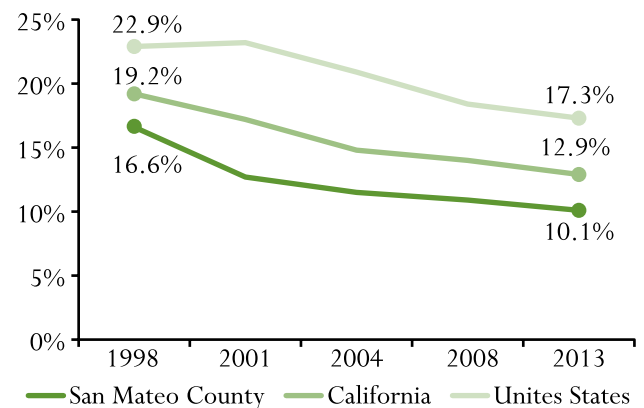
### Percent of 7th Grade Students Meeting Fitness Standards, 2010-2011



Data Source: San Mateo County Health System

- 36% of 7th graders in San Mateo County met all six of the basic fitness standards in 2010–2011. Only 20% of Hispanic/Latino 7th graders accomplished that compared with 57% of Asian students.

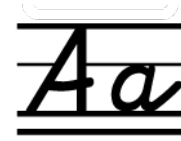
### Percentage of Adult Population who are Current Smokers, 1998-2013



Data Source: San Mateo County Health System and Centers for Disease Control, BRFSS  
Note: Data for California and the U.S. shown for 2013 refer to 2010.

- Smoking prevalence in the county continues to decline, although the rate has slowed following a sharp drop from 1998–2001.

# Education



## Why is this Important?

A good education provides children with the foundation they need to think critically and to take effective action to reach their goals and fulfill their potential. A strong education also passes on the democratic values of our society and encourages students to become productive members of their communities.

The transition to a knowledge economy has placed a premium on highly skilled and educated workers, and those with a bachelor's degree or higher are more likely to be employed, earn higher incomes, and even have better health outcomes than their peers with a high school diploma or less. While the benefits of higher education have grown, rising tuition costs and increasing student loan debt are increasingly making a college degree unaffordable, especially for students from low-income families.

A 2008 report by the University of California, Berkeley Law School found that the two most significant factors determining children's academic success were family income and English language ability. On standardized tests, the achievement gap between affluent and low-income students has risen 40% since the 1960s, with children on the bottom end of the income scale now lagging four years of school behind their peers at the upper end. In San Mateo County, nearly one quarter of public school students are classified as English Learners (EL), and across the state, EL students score much lower on California Standards Tests than other groups. Addressing the negative effects of growing income inequality and the needs of a large EL population is crucial for improving the long-term education outcomes for these students.

## What is a Sustainable State?

In a sustainable state, all children receive a high quality education that equips them with the tools and knowledge needed to pursue their dreams and participate productively in society. Students are reading proficiently in third grade, and high school and college graduation rates are high. School funding is equitable

among districts serving all economic strata, and college is accessible and affordable for all.

### Indicators and Trends

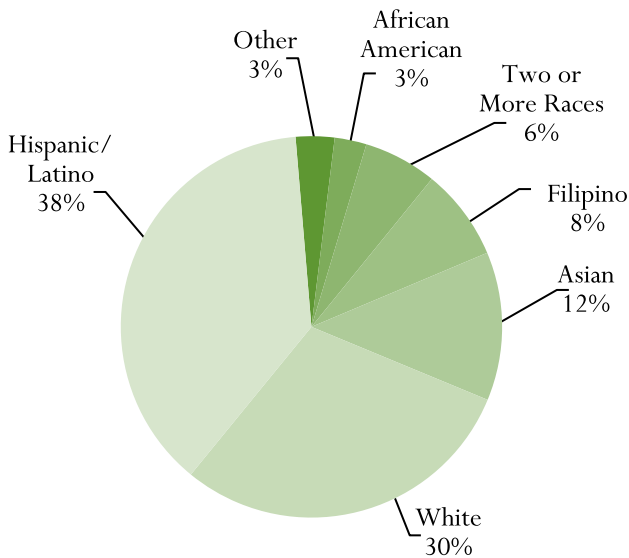
<b>Average Class Size</b>	↓	<i>Negative trend</i>
<b>Students in Special Programs</b>	↓	<i>Negative trend</i>
<b>School Funding</b>	↓	<i>Negative trend</i>
<b>3rd Grade Language Arts Proficiency</b>	↑	<i>Positive trend</i>
<b>Graduation &amp; Dropout Rates</b>	↑	<i>Positive trend</i>
<b>College Preparedness</b>	↔	<i>No clear trend</i>

## Key Findings

- Average class sizes in San Mateo County have been increasing in lockstep with reductions in school funding. Average class size is now 24.4 pupils compared with 23.6 in California.
- More than one in three students (36%) in the county participates in the free or reduced school meal program.
- In 2010–2011, San Mateo County school district funding ranged from a low of \$7,299 per pupil in the Millbrae Elementary School District to a high of \$17,962 in the Woodside Elementary School District.
- Since 2007, the percentage of third grade students scoring proficient or higher on the English Language Arts has continued to rise and is now at 58%, higher than for Bay Area counties (54%), and the state (48%).
- San Mateo County's high school graduation rate (84%) is among the highest in the state.
- Less than half of county high school graduates have completed the required courses for entrance into University of California or California State University schools with a grade of "C" or better.

## Student/Schools Profile

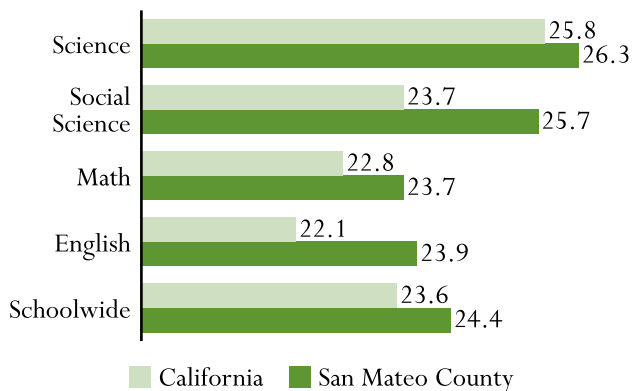
**Public School Enrollment by Race/Ethnicity  
San Mateo County, 2011-2012**



Data Source: Education Data Partnership

- Of the 93,674 students enrolled in San Mateo County public schools, 38% are Hispanics/Latinos.

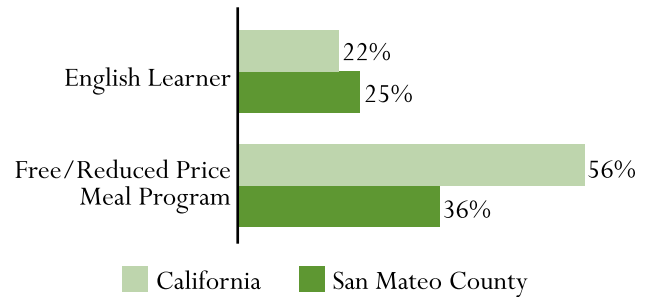
**Average Class Size, 2011-2012**



Data Source: Education Data Partnership

- Average class sizes in the county have risen over the past five years and are larger than the state in all areas shown.

**Percent of Public School Students in  
Special Programs, 2010-12**



Data Source: Education Data Partnership. English learner data is for 2011-2012, Free/Reduced price meal data is from 2010-2011.

- More than one in three students in the county participate in the free or reduced price meal program (available to students whose family income falls below 1.3–1.85 times the 2009 federal income poverty guidelines, respectively), compared with more than half in the state as a whole.
- Nearly three quarters of the county’s English Learners speak Spanish.

### Closing the Gap

In March 2012, the Silicon Valley Community Foundation announced grants totaling more than \$1 million to 17 school districts and nonprofit organizations in Santa Clara and San Mateo counties to help close the achievement gap in math. The grants will support professional development opportunities for more than 520 middle school math teachers. Research has found that effective teachers are the most important factor in closing the achievement gap between socioeconomically disadvantaged students and students of color and their white and Asian counterparts. Research also has found that students who master algebra by eighth grade are more likely to attend and succeed in college. The foundation awarded \$111,275 to the Bayshore, Belmont, and Brisbane school districts for implementation of the ACCESS (Algebra Collaborative for Creative Equitable Student Success) program.



## Public School Funding

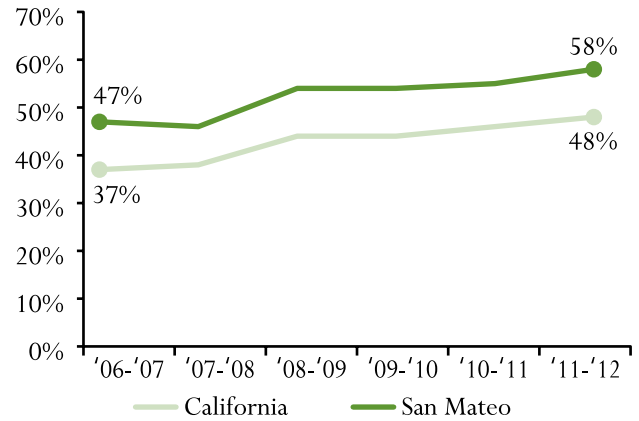
Public school funding in the state is based on a complex series of formulas that lead to vast discrepancies in the per pupil expenditures by districts. For more on school funding, including the current state proposal to change the system, see page 16.

TOTAL EXPENDITURES PER STUDENT SAN MATEO COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICTS 2010-2011	
Millbrae Elementary	\$7,299
San Mateo-Foster City Elementary	\$7,480
Burlingame Elementary	\$7,503
Pacifica	\$7,658
South San Francisco Unified	\$7,673
Jefferson Elementary	\$7,716
San Carlos Elementary	\$8,405
Cabrillo Unified	\$8,672
Bayshore Elementary	\$8,698
Belmont-Redwood Shores Elementary	\$8,737
Redwood City Elementary	\$8,738
<b>Statewide Average All Districts</b>	<b>\$8,818</b>
San Bruno Park Elementary	\$8,986
Jefferson Union High	\$9,272
Brisbane Elementary	\$11,155
Menlo Park City Elementary	\$11,691
Ravenswood City Elementary	\$11,975
San Mateo Union High	\$12,133
Las Lomas Elementary	\$12,515
La Honda-Pescadero Unified	\$12,960
Sequoia Union High	\$13,233
Hillsborough City Elementary	\$13,848
Portola Valley Elementary	\$17,613
Woodside Elementary	\$17,962

Data Source: Education Data Partnership

## Testing: Third Grade Reading Proficiency

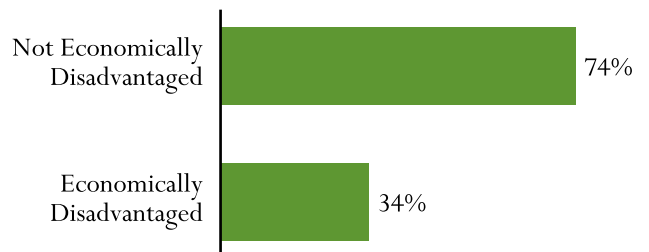
Percent of Third Graders Scoring Proficient or Higher on English Language Arts/CST 2006-2012



Data Source: California Department of Education.

- Third grade language arts proficiency is one of the strongest predictors of future academic success as students who cannot read proficiently at this stage begin to fall behind in other subject areas.
- Since 2007, all Bay Area counties and the state have shown significant improvements in third grade language arts proficiency.

Percent of Third Graders Scoring Proficient or Higher on English Language Arts/CST, by Socio-Economic Status, San Mateo County, 2012

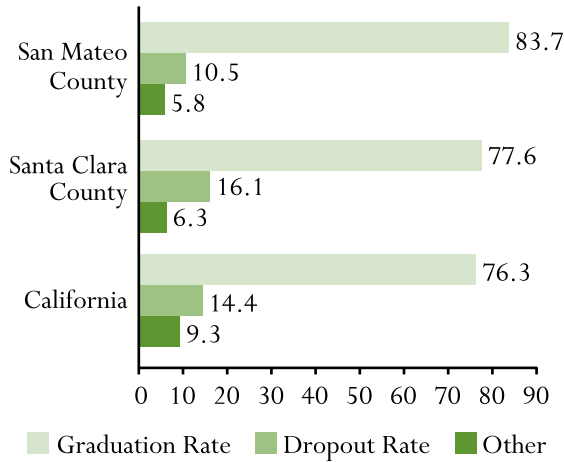


Data Source: California Department of Education.

- Despite improvements in overall scores, there is a sizable difference in language arts proficiency by economic status.

## Graduation and Dropout Rates

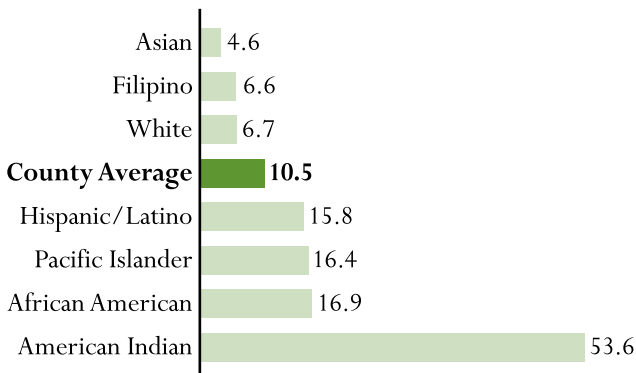
Graduation and Dropout Rates, 2010-11



Data Source: California Department of Education. Category "Other" includes students still enrolled or graduates of special education or GED programs.

- San Mateo County’s dropout rate, which declined by 15% from the year prior, is the second lowest of all Bay Area counties (just behind Marin at 6.6%).
- The two high school districts in the county with the highest graduation rates are South San Francisco High (93%) and Jefferson Union High (87%).

### High School Dropout Rate by Race/Ethnicity San Mateo County, 2010-11

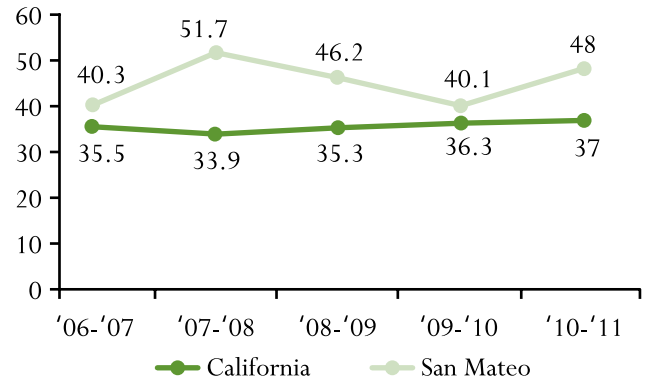


Data Source: California Department of Education.

- Although the county’s overall dropout rate is low, significant disparities exist by race/ethnicity.

## College Preparedness

High School Graduates with UC/CSU Requirements, 2006-2011



Data Source: California Department of Education

- Less than half of San Mateo County high school graduates have completed the required courses for entrance into University of California (UC) or California State University (CSU) schools with a grade of “C” or better.
- Of the Bay Area counties, three have a higher percentage of high school graduates with UC/CSU requirements: Marin (55%), San Francisco (52%), and Alameda (49%).

### Student Loan Debt

Although the rewards of obtaining a college degree are growing, so is the price tag for achieving one. According to a report by the PEW Charitable Trusts, in the early 1990s, less than half of U.S. college students graduated with outstanding student loan debt. Now, close to two-thirds graduate with debt. While more students are in debt, the amount owed is also growing. In 2010, the average outstanding college loan debt was \$26,682, an increase of 52% from 2001 (adjusted for inflation, \$2011).

# Equity at a Glance

City/County	Poverty Rate (% , 2011)	Percent of Residents 25+ Years with Bachelor's Degree or Higher (2011)	Owner-occupied Housing (% , 2011)	Registered Voter Turnout (11/6/12)
Atherton	5.1%	82%	90%	82%
Belmont	4.9%	56%	58%	83%
Brisbane	3.5%	45%	58%	83%
Burlingame	7.4%	54%	49%	83%
Colma	7.4%	30%	35%	71%
Daly City	7.5%	34%	57%	72%
East Palo Alto	16.8%	16%	44%	70%
Foster City	4.2%	63%	59%	81%
Half Moon Bay	6.8%	42%	71%	83%
Hillsborough	2.7%	72%	96%	82%
Menlo Park	5.4%	69%	56%	84%
Millbrae	5.8%	39%	64%	77%
Pacifica	4.1%	39%	69%	82%
Portola Valley	2.4%	84%	73%	88%
Redwood City	9.4%	40%	54%	81%
San Bruno	6.5%	35%	58%	78%
San Carlos	3.3%	59%	73%	86%
San Mateo	5.9%	43%	54%	81%
South San Francisco	5.6%	31%	60%	76%
Woodside	3.9%	71%	94%	84%
<b>Unincorporated SMC</b>	<b>NA</b>	<b>NA</b>	<b>NA</b>	<b>83%</b>
<b>San Mateo County</b>	<b>7.7%</b>	<b>43%</b>	<b>59%</b>	<b>80%</b>

Data Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey; 2012-2013 SSMC City Survey; Office of the San Mateo County Elections Officer

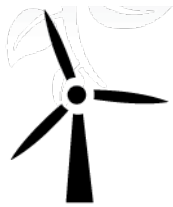
NA = not available or not applicable

# Environment



*A healthy environment has clean air, water, and soil, as well as abundant open spaces that allow native animals and plants to thrive.*

## Climate and Energy



## Land Use



## Natural Resources

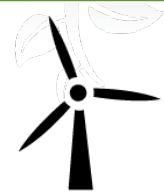


## Environment by the Numbers

- 38,200,000,000:** Btu of energy used in the county in 2011. Total usage is down nearly 6% from 2008.
- 403,491,002:** Gallons of fuel consumed for transportation in San Mateo County in 2012, down 4% from 2000.
- 21,272,580:** Vehicle miles traveled on county roads in 2012, 2.8% fewer than in 2000.
- 4,345,621:** Total square footage of LEED certified green buildings in the county in 2012.
- 2,205,340:** Gallons of sanitary sewer overflows in the county in 2012; 62% of this amount reached surface waters.
- 518,258:** Tons of solid waste generated in San Mateo County in 2011, a reduction of 41% since 2001.
- 23,538:** Acres of land in the county devoted to agriculture production, equaling 8% of total land.
- 81:** Percent of total agricultural production value in the county that comes from Floral and Nursery Crops.
- 50:** Percent of water districts serving San Mateo County residents that receive 100% of their supply from the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission.
- 16:** Number of organic farms in the county in 2012, up from 9 in 2000.
- 1:** Percent of water in the county that comes from recycled sources.

The Frog does not drink up the pond in which it lives.

– Chinese Proverb



# Climate and Energy

## Why is this Important?

Increased levels of greenhouse gases (GHG) are the primary cause of man-made climate change. While some GHGs enter the atmosphere through nature’s carbon cycle, an increasing share now comes from human activities such as the burning of fossil fuels and deforestation.

Earth’s average temperature has increased 1.4° Fahrenheit over the last century and is projected to rise another 2–11° over the next 100 years if we do not curb emissions. The impacts of climate change—altered rainfall patterns, rising sea levels, and more extreme weather events—can already be observed, and Bay lands and coastal areas in San Mateo County are vulnerable to these threats.

California’s Global Warming Solutions Act, AB32, requires the state to reduce GHG emissions to 1990 levels by 2020 and then reach an 80% reduction from 1990 levels by 2050. Local governments and businesses will play a key role in meeting these goals.

## What is a Sustainable State?

In a sustainable state, GHG emissions are reduced to a level that is in balance with nature’s ability to absorb them. Mileage standards for automobiles continue to rise, and multi-modal transportation options reduce total vehicle miles of travel. Energy is produced from renewable and greenhouse gas-neutral sources and is used efficiently.

New buildings are constructed to the highest green standards, and older buildings are retrofitted to ensure efficient energy use. While working to mitigate GHG emissions, communities simultaneously implement adaptation measures, such as building levees or restricting development in floodplain areas.

### Indicators and Trends

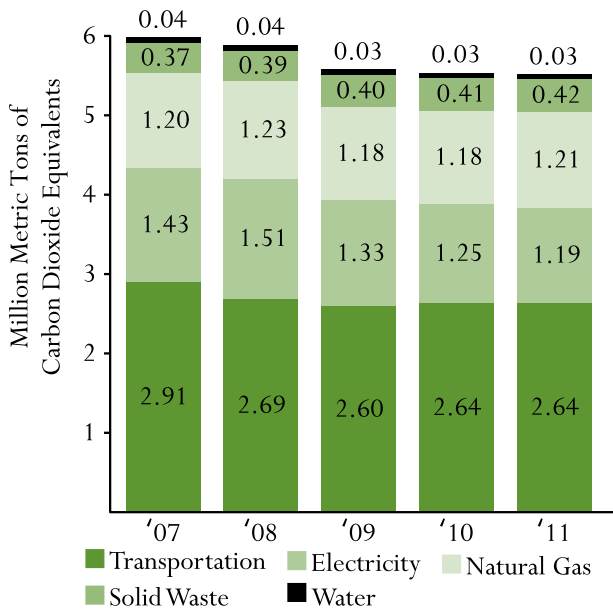
<b>Greenhouse Gas Emissions</b>	↑ <i>Positive trend</i>
<b>Transportation: Vehicle Miles Traveled &amp; Fuel Consumption</b>	↓ <i>Negative trend</i>
<b>Energy Use</b>	↑ <i>Positive trend</i>
<b>Energy Supply</b>	↑ <i>Positive trend</i>
<b>Green Buildings</b>	↑ <i>Positive trend</i>

## Key Findings

- Total county GHG emissions in 2011 were 5.49 million metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalents, slightly down from the year prior. Emissions were 8% lower than peak levels in 2003, mostly because of reductions in transportation and electricity related emissions.
- Nearly half of the county’s GHG emissions come from the transportation sector (48%), with energy use (electricity and natural gas) accounting for 43%.
- Total 2011 county energy use was 38.2 trillion British thermal units (Btu), 3% below 2000 levels.
- Almost all of the power in San Mateo County is purchased from Pacific Gas & Electric (PG&E). In 2011, 19% of the PG&E energy mix came from renewable sources; to meet California’s Renewable Portfolio Standard, the share of renewables must increase to 33% by 2020.
- In 2012, 11 buildings in the county received a LEED rating, adding over 1 million square feet of LEED certified buildings and bringing our county’s cumulative total to over 4.3 million square feet.
- As of January 2013, 18 of the 20 cities and the county itself have approved Green Building ordinances, requiring new construction as well as major renovations to meet certain minimum green rating levels.

# Greenhouse Gas Emissions

**GHG Emissions by Source  
San Mateo County, 2007-2011**



Data Sources: California Energy Commission, California Department of Transportation, and California Integrated Waste Management Board.

- County GHG emissions have been on a declining trend for the past 5 years and are down 8% from peak levels in 2003, mostly because of a reduction in transportation and electricity related emissions.
- 2011 breakdown of county GHG emissions: Transportation (48%), electricity (21.6%), natural gas (21.4%), Solid Waste (7.7%), and Water Use (0.5%).
- Per capita emissions are at 7.55 tons, down from 8.5 in 2003.

For more information on what cities in the county are doing to combat climate change, see the City Reports beginning on page 69.

See trends for Solid Waste and Water, pages 67 and 64.

## California's Cap and Trade Program

The California Cap and Trade Program, a major component of California's Global Warming Solutions Act, went into effect in late 2012. In this initial phase, Cap and Trade sets a statewide GHG emissions limit on oil refineries, power plants, cement companies, food processors, and major factories. The 360 businesses affected must cut emissions to their specified level or buy allowances through an auction run by the California Air Resources Board. Businesses that cut emissions below their specified levels will be allowed to sell their credits through the auction.

Extra money generated from the auction will go to fund climate-related programs in the state such as energy efficiency upgrades in government buildings and rebate programs for the purchase of low-emissions vehicles. Only two San Mateo County businesses are affected in this first phase: SRI International Cogen Project in Menlo Park and Genentech, Inc. in South San Francisco.

## Climate Action Plan

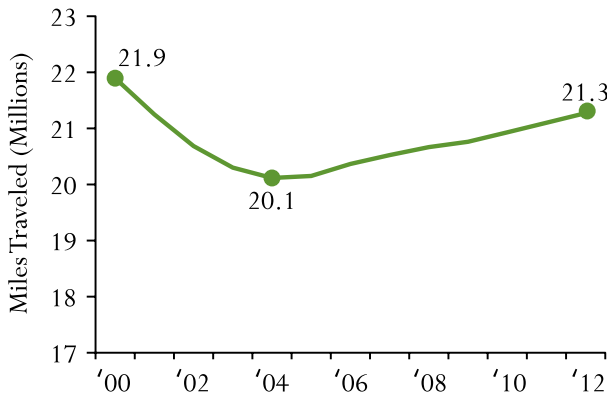
Local governments have a key role in helping the state meet its greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reductions targets for AB32. Adopting a Climate Action Plan (CAP) is the first step. Cities are encouraged to start by creating a baseline inventory of municipal and community GHG emissions and then to identify target reductions. Emissions reductions strategies unique to the community are then evaluated, and after public meetings and an environmental review process, the most promising strategies are put into the CAP and/or General Plan. As of January 2013, 52% of cities/unincorporated county had a completed CAP, and 38% were in the process of completing one (see page 68 for a list of cities and their CAP status).

For more information, visit [energywatch.com/countywide\\_climate\\_action.shtml](http://energywatch.com/countywide_climate_action.shtml).

## Transportation: Vehicle Miles Traveled and Fuel Consumption

Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) is the total number of miles driven by all vehicles in a given time period and geographical area. Factors influencing VMT include population, the state of the economy, personal income, number of registered vehicles per person, and fuel costs.

**Daily Vehicle Miles Traveled  
San Mateo County, 2000-2012**



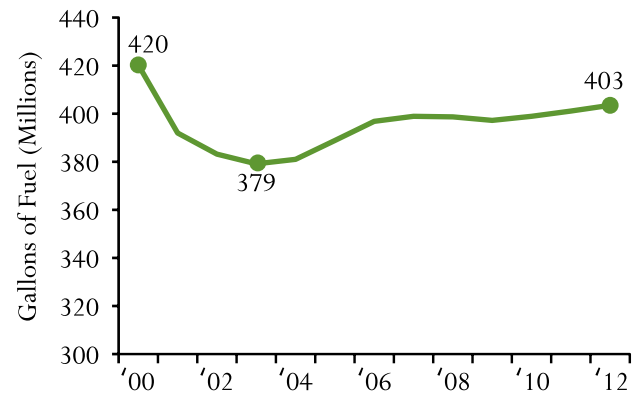
- VMT in San Mateo County in 2012 was 21.3 million miles per day, up slightly from the year prior, but still nearly 3% lower than 2000 levels.

### VEHICLE MILES TRAVELED (VMT) BY COUNTY

County	Daily VMT (Millions)	2012 Daily Per Capita VMT
Santa Clara	43	24
Alameda	40	26
Contra Costa	28	26
<b>San Mateo</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>29</b>
San Francisco	14	17
Marin	7	26
California	977	26

Vehicle Fuel Consumption (VFC) is the total gasoline and diesel fuel usage on all public roads in a given time period.

**Annual Vehicle Fuel Consumption  
San Mateo County, 2000-2012**



Data Source: California Air Resources Board

- Total fuel consumption in the county in 2012 was just over 403 million gallons, a slight increase from the year prior, but 4% lower than 2000 levels.

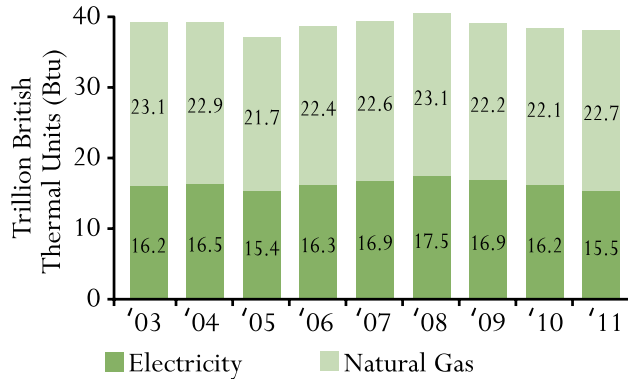
### Cleaner Cars

The widespread adoption of zero-emissions vehicles and plug-in electric hybrids is a key part of California's strategy for meeting air quality standards and climate change goals. The Clean Vehicle Rebate Project, funded by the California Air Resources Board, provides consumers with rebates up to \$2,500 for the purchase of a clean vehicle. Of the \$45 million set aside for the program, less than \$1 million remained as of February 2013. San Mateo County had nearly 800 clean vehicle rebates issued as of 2/13.

For more information, visit [www.arb.ca.gov/msprog/aqip/cvrp.htm](http://www.arb.ca.gov/msprog/aqip/cvrp.htm).

## Energy Use

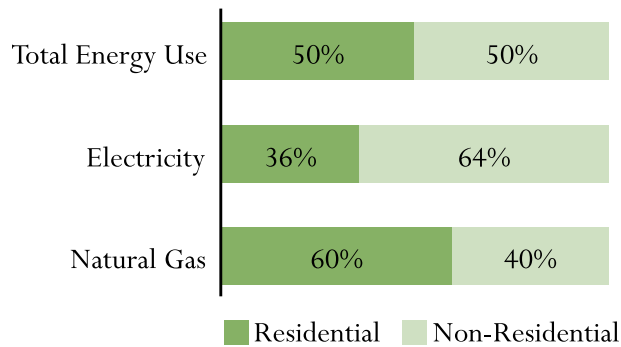
**Total Energy Use  
San Mateo County, 2000-2011**



Data Source: California Energy Commission. Does not include energy used for transportation.

- Total energy use in the county in 2011 was 38.2 trillion British thermal units (Btu), over 5% lower than peak levels in 2008.

**Energy Use by Sector  
San Mateo County, 2011**



Data Source: California Energy Commission

- The county's even split for overall energy use differs from most neighboring counties, which have a higher share of non-residential usage.
- Per capita residential usage is at 26.2 million Btu, largely unchanged from the past three years.

### Green Button Connect

PG&E's GreenButton Connect is part of a nationwide effort to provide consumers with standard, easily accessible information on household energy use so they can better understand usage patterns and find new ways to conserve.

Through the Green Button program, PG&E customers download their personal electrical consumption data and the file is sent (and continually updated) to a third party company that specializes in providing charts and clear information showing usage and potential energy savings.

For more information or to sign up for the program, visit [www.pge.com/myhome/myaccount/using/thegreenbutton](http://www.pge.com/myhome/myaccount/using/thegreenbutton).

To see city-by-city energy progress reports, visit the San Mateo County Energy Watch website at [www.smcenergywatch.com/progress\\_reports\\_grid.shtml](http://www.smcenergywatch.com/progress_reports_grid.shtml).



Millbrae Library Solar Panels. Siemens Building Industries and Luminalt Solar Energy Solutions. Kent Fields Photography.

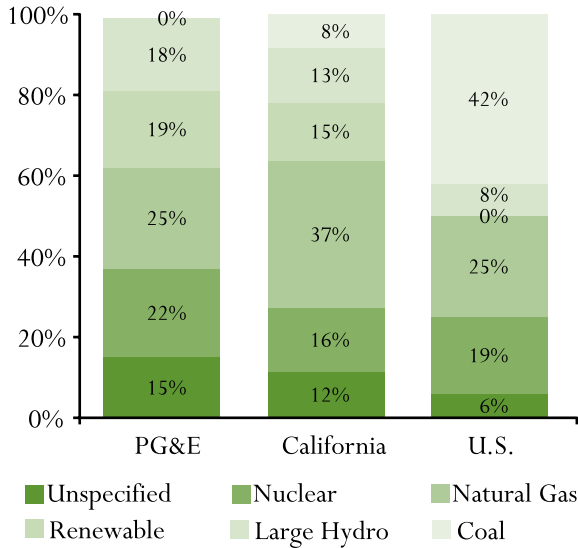
For more on Millbrae's clean energy project, see page 75.



## Energy Supply

Almost all of the power in San Mateo County is purchased from PG&E, making its supply mix an important measure of the impact of electricity use.

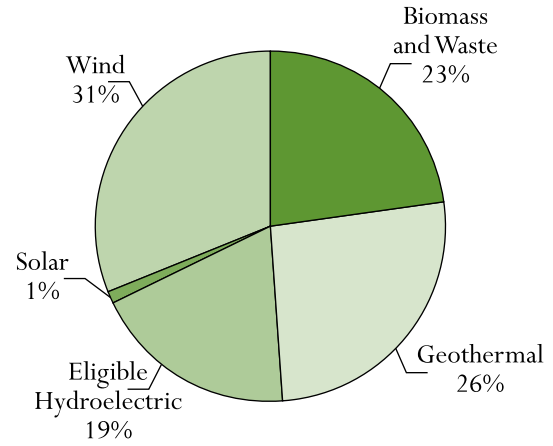
**Electricity Mix by Source, 2011**



Data Source: Pacific Gas and Electric, California Energy Commission, and U.S. Energy Information Administration. Note: U.S. Power Mix Category "unspecified" contains renewable, so we were not able to make an even comparison with CA and PG&E renewable and greenhouse gas free sources. For California and PG&E, the Renewable category contains small scale hydro power. The 8% in the U.S. bar covers all hydro power, whether large or small, so there is possibly more renewable in that category too.

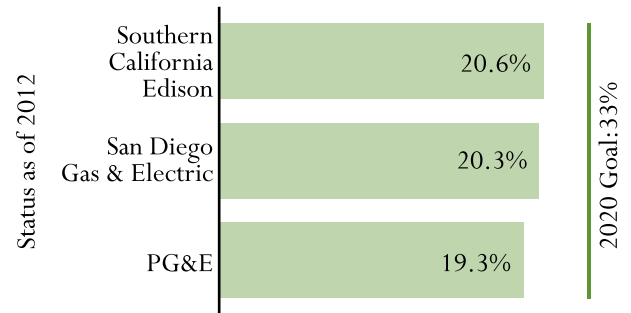
- In 2011, 59% of PG&E's supply mix came from renewable and greenhouse gas free sources (large hydro and nuclear) versus 44% for California.
- PG&E's 2012 CO<sub>2</sub> emissions rate was 393 pounds per MWh, approximately half the national average for utilities.

**2011 PG&E Renewable Power Mix**



Data Source: Pacific Gas and Electric 2011 Electric Power Mix Delivered to Retail Customers

**Progress Towards California 2020 Renewable Portfolio Standard**

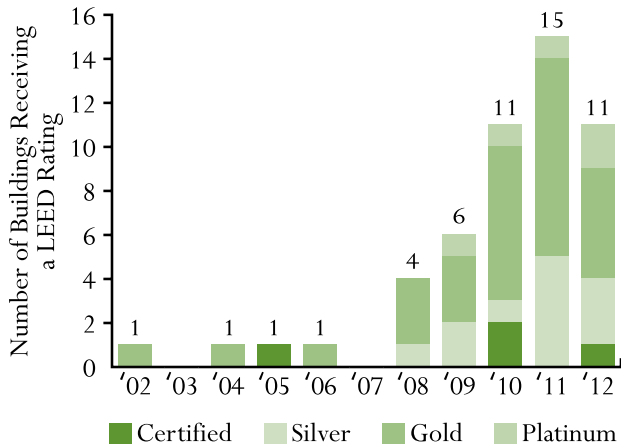


Data Source: California Public Utilities Commission

- Under California's Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS), the state's utility providers must procure 33% of their electricity from renewable sources by 2020. Shown above are the state's three investor owned utilities, who together provide 68% of the state's electric retail sales.
- In 2011, over 800 MW of renewable power were added in the state, which was the greatest year-to-year increase in renewable generation since the program started in 2003. While final data are not yet in for 2012, the year was estimated to surpass the gains of 2011 by adding over 3,000 MW of renewable energy.

## Green Buildings

**LEED Rating Distribution  
San Mateo County, 2002-2012**



Data Source: United States Green Building Council

- The Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) green building rating system is primarily used to evaluate commercial and institutional construction.
- In 2012, 11 buildings in the county received a LEED rating, adding over 1 million square feet of LEED certified buildings and bringing our county’s cumulative total to over 4.3 million square feet.
- The largest project was the 328,201 square foot “Gold” certified building at Electronic Arts headquarters in Redwood City. The two projects receiving the highest rating of “Platinum” were the Siena Youth Center and the 5th Avenue Alternative School, both in Redwood City.

### APPROVED GREEN BUILDING ORDINANCES

City/Town	System
Atherton	CalGreen
Belmont	Greenpoint & LEED
Brisbane	Greenpoint & LEED
Burlingame	Greenpoint & LEED
Daly City	Greenpoint & LEED
East Palo Alto	CalGreen
Half Moon Bay	CalGreen
Hillsborough	Greenpoint
Menlo Park	CalGreen
Millbrae	Greenpoint & LEED
Pacifica	Greenpoint & LEED
Portola Valley	Greenpoint & LEED
Redwood City	Greenpoint & LEED
San Bruno	CalGreen
San Carlos	CalGreen
San Mateo (city)	Greenpoint & LEED
Unincorporated SMC	Greenpoint & LEED
Woodside	CalGreen

Data Source: City websites and municipal codes

- As of January 2013, 18 of the 21 jurisdictions in the county have approved Green Building ordinances, which require new construction as well as major renovations to meet certain minimum green rating levels.
- Greenpoint is used for residential construction, LEED is primarily used for commercial, while CalGreen is a statewide green building code that applies to both residential and commercial buildings.

### SSMC 2013 Green Building Award Winner

The Shoreway Environmental Center, located in San Carlos, handles the receipt, processing, and shipment of solid waste and recyclables collected in southern and central San Mateo County. In 2011, the upgraded facility, containing an education center and a Materials Recovery Facility, opened and received a LEED Gold Certification. A translucent wall and skylights provide natural lighting, while solar panels produce over 50% of the energy needs of the entire facility. Landscaping around the premises with native and low-water use plants along with rainwater harvesting and reuse help to limit water use.

For the full list of SSMC 2013 Award Winners, please visit our website: [www.sustainablesanmateo.org/awards](http://www.sustainablesanmateo.org/awards).

# Land Use



## Why is this Important?

Land use decisions have far-reaching effects on the long-term sustainability of a community, impacting the location of new housing, businesses, schools, and parks. Land use policies influence everything from the diversity of the local economy to how much residents drive and how healthy their diet is.

With many towns and cities in San Mateo County fully built-out under current zoning, the focus on future development will largely be on designing more sustainable in-fill projects that bring new residents and businesses into already developed areas. To simultaneously meet the needs of a growing population (see Population Indicator, page 19) and to reduce greenhouse gas emissions (see Climate and Energy Section, pages 52–57), planning officials must decide where to site new commercial, industrial, government, and residential uses to make our communities more livable and allow residents and workers to get to school, work, and daily activities by walking, biking, and taking public transit.

Planning officials also need to determine the location and size of parks and open space lands. These valuable community assets are a place for people to enjoy outdoor exercise and experience the natural world, and they provide important linkages throughout the Bay Area where native habitat and wildlife areas can be preserved and protected.

Land use decisions also impact local agriculture. In San Mateo County, every dollar of agricultural production creates between \$1.60–\$3.50 of economic activity, and sustainable farming practices protect the land while providing residents with healthy, locally grown food. With the high price of real estate in the county, agricultural lands are continually at risk for development.

## What is a Sustainable State?

In a sustainable state, land use policies accommodate growth while protecting public and ecological health by directing development to areas that provide easy access to services, jobs, and transit. Parks and open space are abundant, of good quality, and readily accessible to all residents, and agriculture lands are preserved.

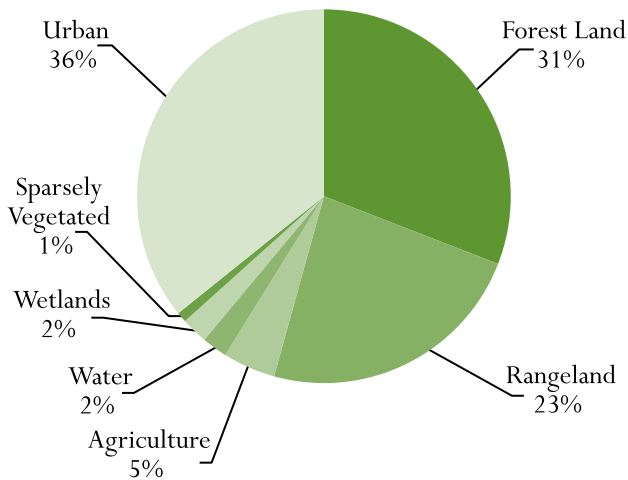
Indicators and Trends		
Land Use Breakdown	↔	No trend
Land Use Policies	↑	Positive trend
Parks and Open Space	↑	Positive trend
Food and Agriculture	↓	Negative trend

## Key Findings

- Of San Mateo County land, 64% is non-urban and 36% is urban.
- The cities and unincorporated county have taken numerous steps to create more sustainable land use policies. As of January 2013, 62% had adopted a Complete Streets resolution, 52% had completed a Climate Action Plan (CAP), and 38% were in the process of developing a CAP.
- As of January 2013, there were 3,085 Transit Oriented Development (TOD) housing units in the county, with an additional 2,499 units in the planning or building stages.
- San Mateo County includes over 286,000 acres of land, 41% of which is designated as protected open space. Only Marin County has a higher percentage of open space lands.
- Field crops and pasture make up over 86% of county agricultural land.

## Land Use Breakdown

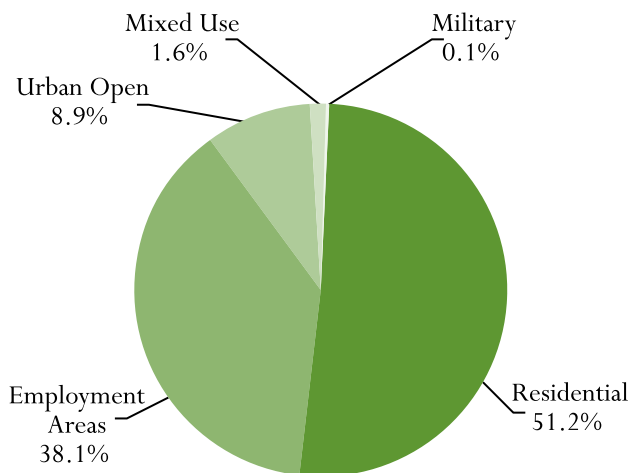
San Mateo County Total Land Use



Data Source: Existing Land Use in 2005: Data for Bay Area Counties. Association of Bay Area Governments, January 2006.

- 64% of land in the county is non-urban, with the majority of that being forest and rangeland (vegetation with grasses and grass-like plants).

San Mateo County Urban Land Use



Data Source: Existing Land Use in 2005: Data for Bay Area Counties. Association of Bay Area Governments, January 2006.

- The majority of urban land in the county is for residential and employment uses.

## Land Use Policies

### Complete Streets

Complete Streets are designed to balance safety and convenience for all users—bicyclists, drivers, pedestrians, and transit riders—and may contain features like wide and inviting sidewalks, street furniture and landscaping, bike lanes, bus lanes, comfortable and accessible transit stops, and safe pedestrian and bicycle crossing locations. This is a move away from streets designed primarily for automobiles that can make walking, biking, or accessing public transit inconvenient and often dangerous.

Complete Streets offer health benefits by encouraging more active forms of transportation like walking and cycling. They also help reduce congestion by improving the efficiency and capacity of roads. By adopting a Complete Streets Policy, local governments take a holistic approach to new transportation projects by making sure that street networks provide safe access for all users.

As of January 2013, 62% of cities/unincorporated county had a Complete Streets Policy or Resolution (see page 68 for a listing by city).

### Transit Oriented Development (TOD)

TOD aims to create compact, mixed-use, walkable communities in close proximity to public transit. This type of development can reduce car dependency, traffic congestion, and air pollution. With TOD zoning, developers are encouraged to build housing for a variety of income levels including affordable housing, which can help revitalize and diversify neighborhoods.

As of January 2013, there were 3,085 TOD housing units in the county, with an additional 2,499 units in the planning or building stages.

## Parks and Open Space

Protected open space is land restricted from new development and construction and generally kept available for wildlife habitat, scenic views, farming, or low-impact public access. Major protected land in the county includes land owned by the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District and the Peninsula Open Space Trust; California State Parks; San Mateo County Parks, and San Francisco Public Utilities Commission watershed lands.

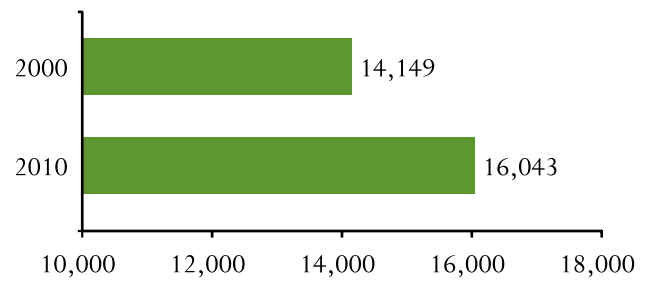
TOTAL LAND AND PROTECTED LANDS BAY AREA COUNTIES, 2012		
County	Total Land (Acres)	Percent Total Protected Land
Marin	332,998	63%
<b>San Mateo</b>	<b>286,982</b>	<b>41%</b>
Contra Costa	458,202	31%
Napa	478,950	30%
Santa Clara	825,664	29%
Alameda	472,973	25%
San Francisco	29,997	19%
Sonoma	1,008,544	18%
Solano	525,933	14%

*Data Sources: Bay Area Open Space Council Lands Database and U.S. Census Bureau*

**City Parks:** In 2011, there were over 2,200 acres of city-owned parks in San Mateo County, translating to a county average of just over 3 acres of city parks per 1,000 residents. Most city parks include both active and passive recreational activities such as playing fields and sitting and hiking areas.

**San Mateo County Parks:** Our county parks are much larger in size than city parks and usually have regional trails and picnic and recreational areas. They also generally need more vegetation management for habitat preservation and fire protection at the urban/rural boundaries.

**Acres of San Mateo County Parks  
2000 and 2010**



*Data Source: San Mateo County Parks, Environmental Quality Committee Report, 2011*

- The 17 San Mateo County Parks have approximately 1.7 million visitors annually.
- As of 2010, there were over 16,000 acres of county parks (a 13% increase above year 2000) with 186 miles of developed trails.

For more information, visit [www.smcoparks.org](http://www.smcoparks.org).

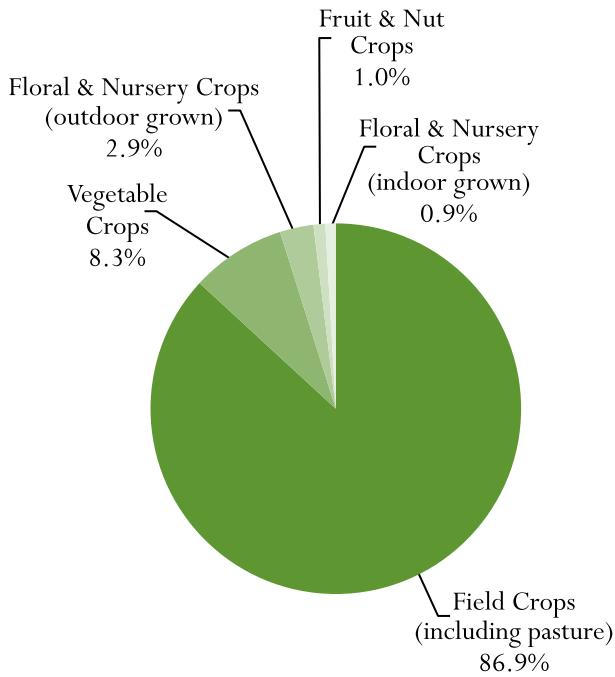
### Protecting Farmlands

The Peninsula Open Space Trust (POST), in operation since 1977, has saved over 70,000 acres of land from development in San Mateo, Santa Clara, and Santa Cruz Counties. As part of its Farmland Protection efforts, POST buys agricultural land at risk of development and then leases or sells it back to ranchers or farmers. This helps preserve farmland while maintaining the region’s access to locally grown foods. In December 2012, POST purchased Butano Farms in Pescadero, ensuring that the 903 acres of crop and grazing lands there will continue to be part of our county’s agricultural tradition.

For more information visit [www.openspacetrust.org](http://www.openspacetrust.org).

## Food and Agriculture

**Agricultural Acreage by Crop  
San Mateo County, 2011**



Data source: San Mateo County Department of Agriculture/Weights & Measures 2011 Agricultural Crop Report

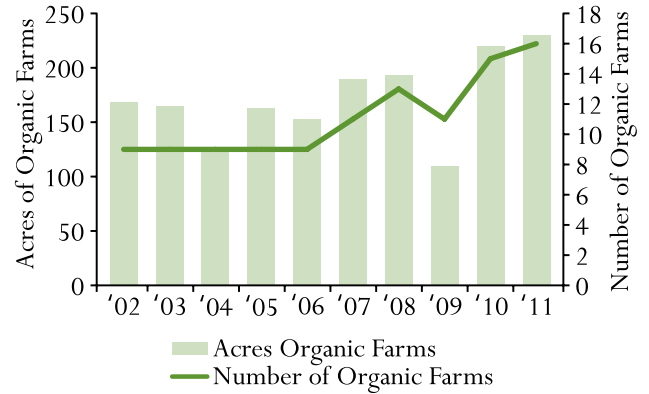
- Field crops constitute 86.9% of agricultural land, but floral and nursery crops bring in 81% of total production value.

### TOP MILLION DOLLAR CROPS SAN MATEO COUNTY, 2011

Crop	Production Value	Percent Change Year Prior
Flowering Potted Plants	\$79,520,000	-10%
Ornamental Nursery Stock	\$15,010,000	0%
Brussels Sprouts	\$8,857,000	12%
Cut Flowers (indoor grown)	\$6,503,000	20%
Cut Flowers (outdoor grown)	\$5,532,000	20%

Data source: San Mateo County Department of Agriculture/Weights & Measures 2011 Agricultural Crop Report

**Organic Farms  
San Mateo County, 2002-2011**



Data source: San Mateo County Department of Agriculture/Weights & Measures 2011 Agricultural Crop Report

- In 2011, there were 16 organic farms in the county with 230 acres of organic farmland.
- Acreage of organic farms has increased 37% since 2002, but organic still makes up just over 1% of total agricultural acreage.

### The HEAL Project

One of the best ways to grow and sustain our county's tradition of local agriculture is to engage and encourage the next generation of farmers. The HEAL (Health Environment Agriculture Learning) Project's School Farm offers free visits to San Mateo County K–12 students. Classes visit the School Farm twice during the school year—in the fall for planting and then in the spring for harvesting. The San Mateo County Health Department sponsors the project as it helps children learn about healthy eating and lifestyles. To learn more, visit [www.thehealproject.org](http://www.thehealproject.org).

# Natural Resources



## Why is this Important?

Natural resources are those resources that exist in the environment –water, air, soil, flora, and fauna. While some of these resources, such as the sun, air, and wind, are considered renewable, others, including fossil fuels and minerals, are considered non-renewable because their replenishment rate is vastly slower than the current rate of extraction.

The depletion of natural resources can lead to scarcity and increased costs of goods, and excessive resource extraction can cause loss of species and habitat. Pollution of natural resources, such as our air, water, and soils, impacts the health of humans, animals, and ecosystems. Their careful management and protection is therefore vital to our well-being.

## What is a Sustainable State?

In a sustainable state, natural resources are managed efficiently to minimize environmental degradation, prevent scarcity, and to ensure that resources are available for future generations. Water supply and demand are in balance, and adequate infrastructure and storage reduce the risk of shortages. Water quality is high enough to support different uses including recreation and manufacturing, while also ensuring the health of aquatic ecosystems. Waste prevention and diversion help conserve natural resources. Soils are healthy and support agriculture, while good air quality protects public health.

## Key Findings

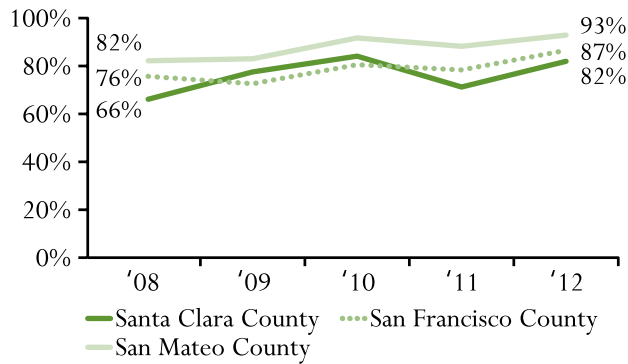
- In 2012, 93% of the days monitored in San Mateo County had “Good” air quality as rated under the Environmental Protection Agency’s Air Quality Index (AQI), up from 82% in 2008. Of the 9 Bay Area counties, only Marin (97%) and Sonoma (94%) had a higher percentage of days in 2012 with “Good” AQI scores.
- County solid waste disposal was at 518,000 tons in 2011, down 7% from the year prior, while state-wide disposal declined by 1%. Since 2001, overall countywide disposal is down 43%.
- Total water usage in San Mateo County in 2010–2011 was 79.78 million gallons per day, down 1 percent from the year prior and 17% lower than peak water usage in 2003–2004.
- The county receives 93% of its water supply from the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC). SFPUC receives on average 85% of its water from the Hetch Hetchy Reservoir in Yosemite National Park and the remainder from local Bay Area watersheds.
- Residential consumption accounts for over 67% of water usage in the county, with the majority of this usage for single family homes.
- The largest source of pollution in our waterways is from stormwater runoff, which carries untreated contaminants like motor oil, animal waste, pesticides, and sometimes sewage directly from our streets to our beaches. In 2012, over 2.2 million gallons of raw or partially-treated sewage spilled in San Mateo County, a 35% increase from the year prior.

Indicators and Trends		
Air Quality	↑	Positive trend
Water: Supply and Demand	↔	No trend
Water: Bay and Ocean Water Quality	↓	Negative trend
Solid Waste	↑	Positive trend

## Air Quality

The Environmental Protection Agency’s Air Quality Index (AQI) measures overall air quality in a region on a scale of 0-500: Good = 0-50, Moderate = 51-100, Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups = 101-150, and Unhealthy for All = 151+.

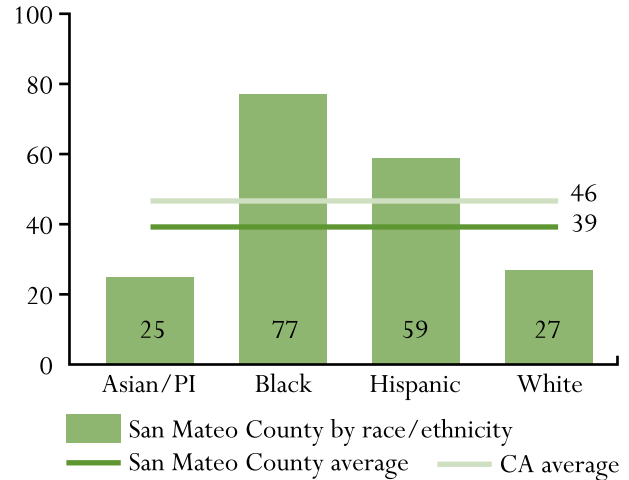
**Percent of Monitored Days with “Good” Air Quality Index Scores, 2008-12**



Data Source: Environmental Protection Agency

- In 2012, San Mateo County had 26 days of moderate air quality, with 69% of these days occurring in January and November.
- During the 2012–2013 Spare the Air Season, which runs from November 1 to February 28, soot concentrations in the nine Bay Area counties violated federal public health standards on only one day. The Bay Area Air Quality Management District issued 10 Spare the Air Alerts this season, 15 the season before, and 4 in the 2010–2011 season. The ban on wood burning on Spare the Air days is seen as an effective counter-measure to fine particulates pollution.
- The main pollutant in the county affecting air quality is small particulate matter (PM2.5), and the county’s largest sources of PM2.5 are fuel combustion, road dust, farming operations, and marine vessels.

**Emergency Department Visits per 10,000 Residents due to Asthma, 2010**



Data Source: California Breathing

- While San Mateo County’s emergency department visit rate for asthma is lower than California’s, significant disparities exist within the county by race/ethnicity.

### An Unequal Burden

Emergency department visits for asthma are usually a result of poor asthma management, lack of primary care, and exposure to triggers such as air pollution. Many of these triggers—vehicle pollution, mold, rodents, and cockroaches—disproportionately impact low-income families who are more likely to live near freeways or in less expensive rental housing that has not been properly maintained.

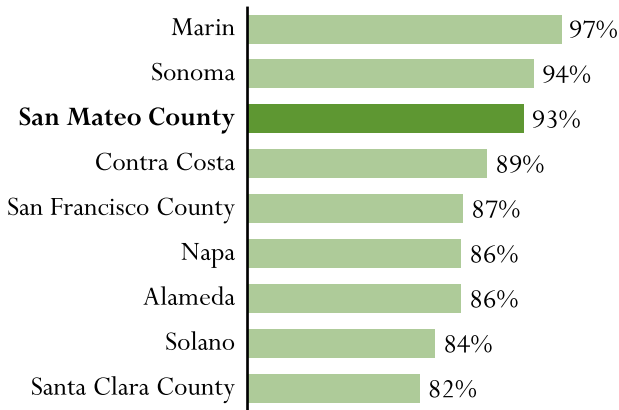
In San Mateo County, childhood hospitalization rates for asthma (per 10,000 population) were highest in these three zip codes: (For comparison, the state-wide rate is 11.)

- 94303 (East Palo Alto) 15.0
- 94061 (Redwood City) 12.5
- 94025 (Menlo Park) 10.7



*Air Quality, continued*

**Percent of Monitored Days with AQI “Good” Rating, Bay Area Counties, 2012**



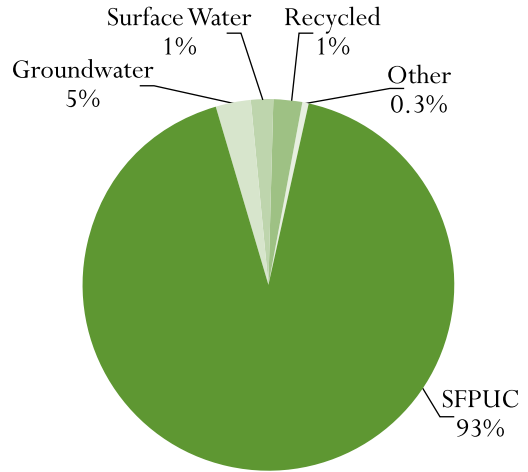
Data Source: Environmental Protection Agency



Blue skies over Hillsborough. Photo courtesy of Jack Gordon.

**Water: Supply and Demand**

**Water Use by Supply Source San Mateo County, 2010-11**

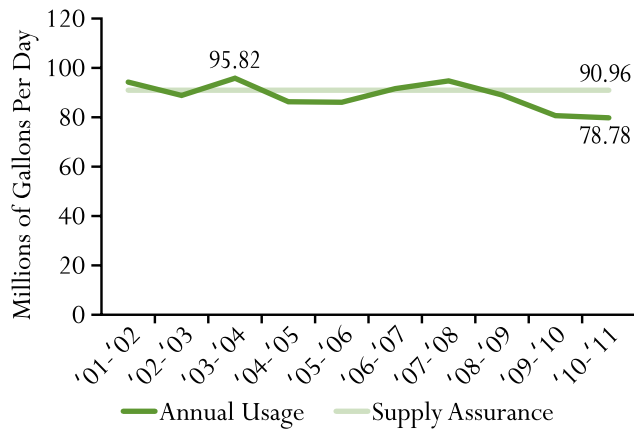


Data source: Bay Area Water Supply & Conservation Agency. Water use is reported according to their fiscal year.

- With limited local water sources, the county relies predominantly on the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC) for its supply. SFPUC in turn draws on average 85% of its water from the Hetch Hetchy Reservoir in Yosemite National Park and the remainder from local Bay Area watersheds.
- Only Burlingame, Daly City, and Redwood City currently recycle water, and it represents a small percentage of their supplies. County groundwater resources are extremely limited except in Daly City, San Bruno, and South San Francisco.
- The water agencies in San Mateo County have a combined contractual Supply Assurance with SFPUC for 90.96 million gallons of water per day. While this Supply Assurance is not expected to increase over time, the county’s population and economy are projected to grow, making increased conservation and expansion of local water resources essential for meeting future demand.

Water: Supply and Demand, continued

San Mateo County Total Water Use, 2001–2011



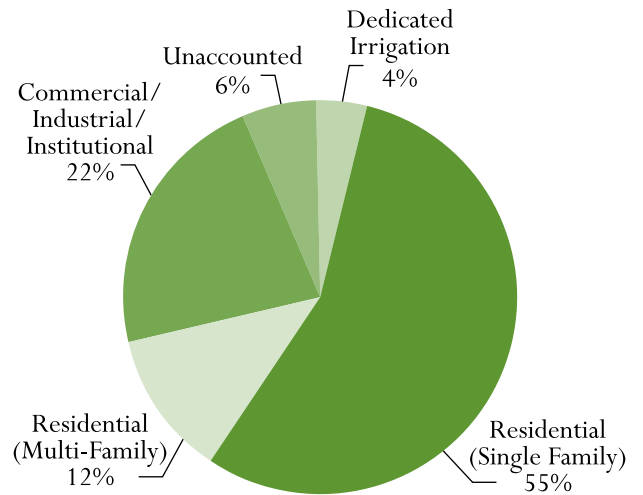
Data source: Bay Area Water Supply & Conservation Agency. Water use is reported according to their fiscal year.

- Total water usage in San Mateo County in 2010–2011 was down 1% from the year prior and was 17% lower than peak water usage in 2003–2004.
- Water usage has been on a declining trend for the past three years because of the Great Recession, increased conservation measures, cooler summer temperatures, and increased rainfall compared with prior years.

Lawn Be Gone

Outdoor irrigation can make up more than 50% of residential water use for the average California homeowner. The Bay Area Water Supply and Conservation Agency (BAWSCA) Lawn Be Gone Program provides rebates ranging from \$500-\$3,000 to approved customers for converting lawns to water-efficient landscapes. To be eligible for this program, an applicant must be a customer of a participating BAWSCA Member Agency. For more information, visit [www.bawasca.org](http://www.bawasca.org).

Water Use by Class of Customer San Mateo County, 2010–11



Data source: Bay Area Water Supply & Conservation Agency. Water use is reported according to their fiscal year.

- Residential consumption accounts for over 67% of water usage in the county.
- Average residential consumption for all water agencies using SFPUC water was just over 77 gallons per person per day. Per capita daily residential usage in San Mateo County varies greatly by water supplier, from 43 gallons in Westborough Water District, which serves a portion of South San Francisco, to 262 gallons in Hillsborough.

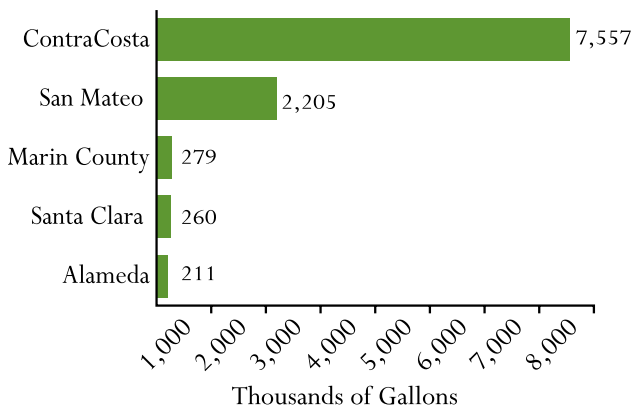


A local San Mateo County home where over 2,000 square feet of water-thirsty lawn was replaced with drought-tolerant California native grasses. Photo courtesy of Jessica Norling.

## Water: Bay and Ocean Water Quality

Heavy rainwater can pour into cracked or clogged sewer pipes, causing untreated sewage to overflow into storm drains and area waterways. Areas like San Mateo County, with aging sewer systems, are at heightened risk of sanitary sewer overflows.

### Bay Area Counties with Largest Total Volume of Sanitary Sewer Overflows (1,000 gallons), 2012



Data Source: California State Water Resources Control Board

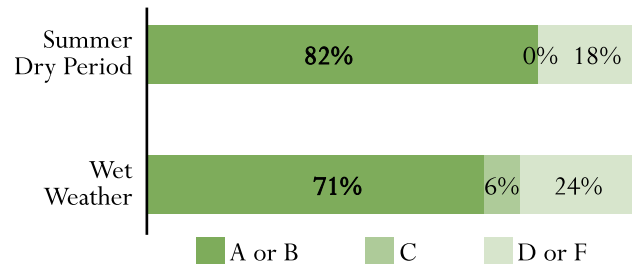
- In 2012, over 2.2 million gallons of raw or partially-treated sewage spilled in San Mateo County, a 35% increase from 2011.
- Of the total spill volume, 84% is attributed to overflows in Hillsborough and the City of San Mateo.



A beach at Half Moon Bay. Photo courtesy of Shelby Scherer.

The Beach Report Card assesses water quality based on the health risk for beachgoers and assigns letter grades (A being best and F being worst). Beach scores are broken out by Summer Dry Period (April–October) and Wet Weather (sample collected during or within three days of a rainstorm).

### San Mateo County Beach Report Card, 2012



Data Source: Heal the Bay, 2012 Beach Report Card

- The discrepancy in scores between wet weather and the summer dry period highlights the impact of stormwater pollution. Stormwater runoff, carrying untreated contaminants like motor oil, animal waste, pesticides, and sometimes sewage directly from our streets to our beaches is the largest source of pollution in our waterways.

### 2012 COUNTY BEACH BUMMERS

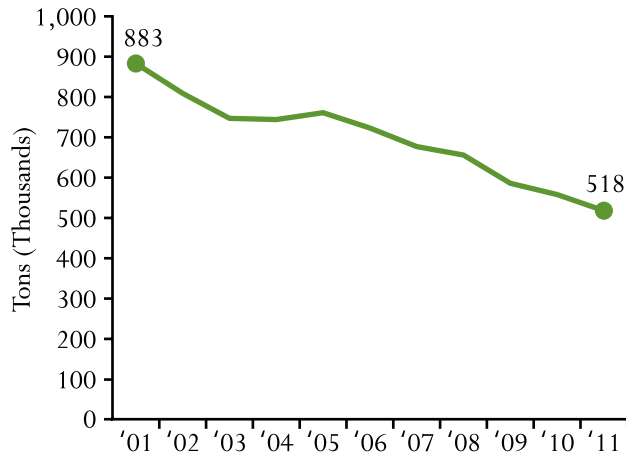
Beach	Location	Summer Dry Score
Aquatic Park	San Mateo (Bayside)	F
Lakeshore Park	San Mateo (Bayside)	F
Oyster Point	South San Francisco (Bayside)	D
Pillar Point Harbor	Half Moon Bay (Oceanside)	D

Data Source: Heal the Bay, 2012 Beach Report Card

- Aquatic Park and Lakeshore Park beaches are lagoon-based with limited circulation potential and were also impacted by sanitary sewer overflows.

## Solid Waste

**Annual Solid Waste Disposal  
San Mateo County, 2001-2011**



Data Source: California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle)

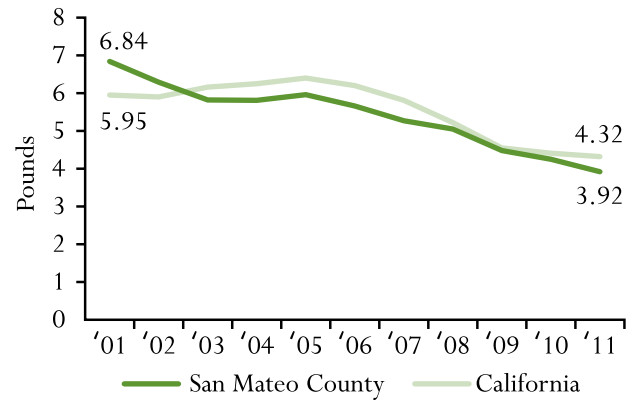
- County solid waste disposal decreased 7% in 2011 from the year prior, while statewide disposal declined by 1%. Since 2001, overall countywide disposal is down 43%.
- New waste diversion programs and the Great Recession are responsible for much of the reduction. There has also been an increase in reuse of items with websites such as Freecycle.org and Craigslist.org, making it easier for people to swap, purchase, and giveaway used goods.

### SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL BY COUNTY

County	2011 Per Capita Daily Disposal	Percent Change Total Disposal 2001-11
Marin	3.76	-26%
San Francisco	3.01	-48%
<b>San Mateo</b>	<b>3.92</b>	<b>-43%</b>
Santa Clara	3.42	-27%

Data Source: California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle)

**Per Capita Daily Solid Waste Disposal  
2001-2011**



Data Source: California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle)

- County per capita disposal is down 43% since 2001.

### Local Initiative: Reusable Bag Ordinance

Estimates show that Bay Area residents use between 42 and 227 plastic bags per person annually. These bags do not biodegrade, and they clog storm drains, harm wildlife, and pollute local waterways.

Under San Mateo County's Reusable Bag Ordinance, which went into effect April 22, 2013, retail stores in unincorporated San Mateo County are no longer distributing plastic bags to customers. The Ordinance will not apply to plastic bags used for restaurant take-out, produce, meats, bulk foods, and prescription medicines.

Customers who don't have a reusable bag will be charged ten cents for a paper bag, with the price increasing to twenty-five cents by January 2015.

As of March 2013, 18 cities in San Mateo County have adopted similar bans. Making the ordinance regional will create consistency for businesses and shoppers.

For more information, visit [smchealth.org](http://smchealth.org).

# Environment at a Glance

City/County	Land Area (sq. miles 2011)	Climate Action Plan (2012)	CO2 Emissions from Total Electricity Use (thousand tons of CO2, 2011)	Green Building Ordinance	Total Solar Electricity Generation Capacity Installed (Watts 2011)
Atherton	5.0	In Progress	12.6	CalGreen	712,364
Belmont	4.6	In Progress	15.2	Greenpoint & LEED	341,755
Brisbane	3.4	No	2.3	Greenpoint & LEED	72,692
Burlingame	4.4	Yes	17.2	Greenpoint & LEED	298,129
Colma	1.9	In Progress	0.6	NA	10,379
Daly City	7.7	Yes	39.0	CalGreen	78,210
East Palo Alto	2.5	Yes	10.0	CalGreen	77,596
Foster City	3.8	In Progress	17.6	NA	179,526
Half Moon Bay	6.4	No	6.9	CalGreen	261,607
Hillsborough	6.2	Yes	14.2	Greenpoint	517,671
Menlo Park	9.8	Yes	19.7	CalGreen	750,751
Millbrae	3.3	In Progress	12.0	Greenpoint & LEED	159,149
Pacifica	12.7	Yes	19.4	Greenpoint & LEED	301,298
Portola Valley	9.1	In Progress	4.7	Greenpoint & LEED	716,570
Redwood City	19.4	Yes	39.6	Greenpoint & LEED	1,158,672
San Bruno	5.5	Yes	20.5	CalGreen	71,783
San Carlos	5.5	Yes	18.7	Greenpoint & LEED	643,131
San Mateo	12.1	Yes	53.3	Greenpoint & LEED	920,979
South San Francisco	9.1	In Progress	26.5	NA	157,411
Woodside	11.7	In Progress	9.3	CalGreen	917,101
<b>Unincorporated SMC</b>	<b>304.2</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>NA</b>	<b>Greenpoint &amp; LEED</b>	<b>383,629</b>
<b>San Mateo County</b>	<b>448.4</b>	<b>NA</b>	<b>397.8</b>	<b>NA</b>	<b>8,346,774</b>

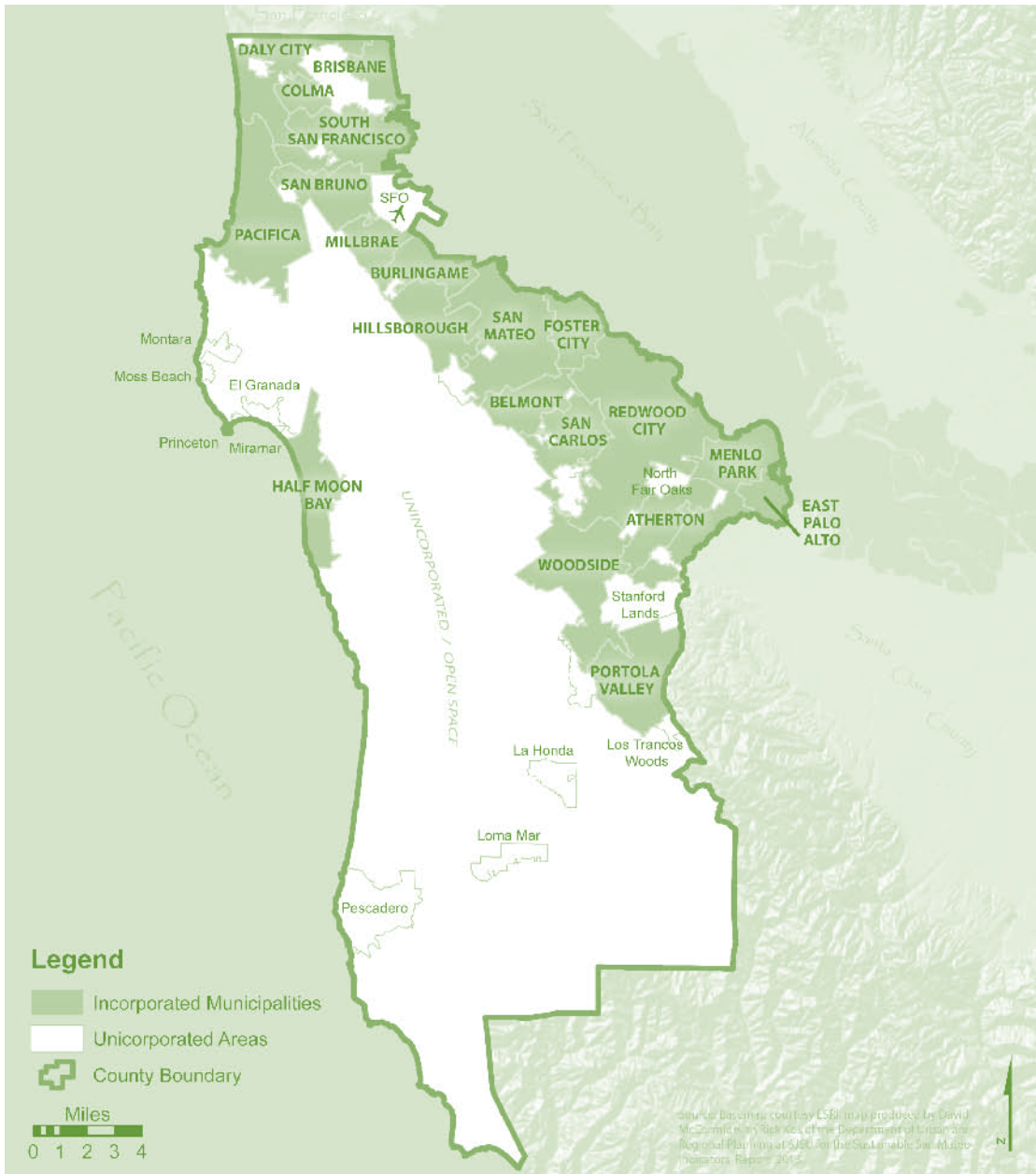
Data Sources: U.S. Census Bureau Quick Facts; 2012-2013 SSMC City Survey; Pacific Gas & Electric; Go Solar California

NA = not available or not applicable

# Sustainability Updates Cities, Towns, and the County

While our sustainability challenges are global in scale, local governments, with the support of residents, businesses and nonprofit organizations, play a key role in tackling these issues and in carrying out laws made at the federal and state levels. The actions of local governments impact everything from land use patterns and resource management to climate change and the delivery of social services.

Each year, SSMC surveys the cities, towns, and unincorporated San Mateo County to find out what they are doing to create a more sustainable region. This year the questions focused on Indicators that our last report showed to be in need of more attention: land use policies, climate change, economic development, and water conservation. We also asked the cities to share their unique programs and success stories.



# Atherton

**Climate Change:** Atherton is developing its Climate Action Plan (CAP) using the Regionally Integrated Climate Action Planning Suite (RICAPS). This program is funded by grants from the Bay Area Air Quality Management District and PG&E, and it offers cities in the county access to a set of online tools as well as multi-city monthly working groups to help in creating and implementing a CAP. In this initial phase, Atherton is undergoing an emissions audit, with a discussion of measures to include in early 2013. In addition to cre-

ating a CAP, Atherton has an adopted Green Building Ordinance that requires all new projects to be subject to the California Green Building Code.

In November 2012, the town adopted a resolution expressing support of Complete Streets (see page 59 for more information).

**Water Management and Conservation:** Atherton follows state laws to promote healthy streams and riparian corridors and address flooding concerns.

# Belmont

**Transit Oriented Development (TOD):** While Belmont does not currently have any TOD projects, the city is in negotiations with a potential developer to create a mixed use development with low and moderate income housing units two blocks from the Caltrain station.

**Climate Change:** Belmont is in the process of preparing a Climate Action Plan. A recently completed retrofit of City Hall included energy efficient lighting upgrades. The city has several vehicles that are fueled with natural gas and biodiesel and has retrofitted some of its large equipment with diesel particulate filters.

**Water Management and Conservation:** As part of the Design Review process, the Public Works Department ensures that eligible properties comply with the regional water quality permit that requires on-site water runoff reduction measures. The Planning Commission encourages the reduction of non-permeable surfaces at residential properties whenever feasible.

Belmont strives to reduce water consumption on city-owned properties through the use of low-flow fixtures and low-water use landscaping where possible. Belmont has recently adopted ordinances banning the use of polystyrene food service products and single-use plastic bags.

**Economic Development:** In the wake of loss of redevelopment money, the City Council has made it a priority for the city to establish a new economic development program, which will help to further their Economic Development Target Site Strategy. Belmont was selected as one of four cities to participate in the Grand Boulevard Initiative's Economic and Housing Opportunities (ECHO) case study; the results of this case study are pending, but the city hopes to implement a variety of the recommendations once that study is completed.

## Brisbane

**Transit Oriented Development (TOD):** Environmental Impact Review is underway for a development project including TOD at the Brisbane (Bayshore) Caltrain station.

**Climate Change:** Brisbane is strengthening its Green Building Ordinance and updating its General Plan to establish climate change mitigation and adaptation policies. Brisbane's Sustainability Committee is creating a plan for possible development of the Baylands that centers on ecological sustainability, environmental health, and energy efficient buildings run on locally generated renewable energy. Other steps to reduce GHGs include: participating in Energy Upgrade California, retrofitting City Hall with energy efficient technologies, and installing a solar thermal heating system for the community pool. City Hall is an Energy Star building, awarded to commercial and governmental buildings earning a rating of 75 out of 100 for energy conservation. The city supports a shuttle service for commuters between workplaces and BART or CalTrain, and has enhanced pedestrian and bicycle access to Bayshore Boulevard and Tunnel Avenue.

**Water Management and Conservation:** Brisbane recently partnered with a local conservation group to restore an earthen vee ditch with native plants. While the ditch's stormwater capacity is unchanged, there has been a substantial improvement in water quality after rainflow filters through the planted bottom of the vee creek. In addition, the stream is now home to native animals, including insects, amphibians, and birds.

Brisbane residents are among the lowest per capita water users in the county. The city participates in regional water conservation programs offering rebates to qualified customers for installing low-water-use fixtures and for converting lawns to water-efficient landscapes. Brisbane's own water conservation program involves public education and outreach, an ordinance prohibiting water waste, as well as a water-efficient landscaping ordinance that requires large landscape plans to use drought-tolerant plants and water-efficient irrigation. The city also encourages rainwater harvesting and has developed guidelines that instruct residents on how to collect, store, and use rainwater.

## Burlingame

**Transit Oriented Development (TOD):** In 2012, 45 TOD housing units were completed. A 25-unit residential condominium project has been approved and is pending building permit issuance.

**Climate Change:** Burlingame has worked to reduce transportation-related GHG emissions. The city upgraded half its traffic signals to minimize engine idling. In addition, three free shuttles, all managed by the Peninsula Traffic Congestion Relief Alliance, transport passengers between BART, Caltrain, employment centers, Peninsula Hospital, and the two main shopping streets.

**Water Management and Conservation:** To meet the new state requirements for reducing stormwater runoff, new projects that create and/or replace 2,500–10,000 square feet of impervious surface will need to incorporate one of several site design measures such as directing roof runoff into cisterns, rain barrels or vegetated areas; and constructing walkways, driveways, and patios with permeable surfaces.

Burlingame has switched to computer controlled sprinkler systems on some city-owned property and has installed artificial turf on several play fields.

New development projects need to comply with Burlingame's Landscaping Ordinance as well as its Indoor Water Conservation Ordinance, both of which require the installation of water-saving features. The "Sustainable Burlingame" webpage on the city's website provides water conservation tools and information to residents and businesses.

**Economic Development:** The Economic Development Division and the Chamber of Commerce collaborate to assist businesses by providing one-on-one counseling, informative publications, and workshops. Resources offered include: assistance with financing, using technology to enhance business, business permits, management training and tools, customer service, store design and merchandising, marketing your business, and employee training.



## Colma

**Climate Change:** In 2012, Colma's efforts to reduce GHGs included: completing its 2010 government operations Greenhouse Gas Inventory; passing a Complete Streets ordinance, which requires deliberation of all modes of travel when public works projects are considered; replacing annual plants with low-water use natives in municipal landscaping where possible; and holding a Bicycle Rodeo with commute.org to promote cycling as a safe alternative to driving.

**Water Management and Conservation:** Colma adopted the County's Reusable Bag Ordinance and is scheduled to adopt the County's Polystyrene Ban Ordinance, both of which will reduce the amount of waste in local creeks and waterways. The town's annual cleanup day includes a creek cleanup. In addition, Colma recently passed a sewer cost subsidy ordinance that incentivizes businesses and residents to save water by reducing the amount of water that flows to the sewer. The town also provides water conservation information and kits at community events.

## Daly City

**Transit Oriented Development (TOD):** Recent projects include 88 Hillside (72 units over retail) and Hillcrest Gardens (40 affordable senior apartments). Habitat for Humanity is nearing completion of an entirely-affordable 36-unit condominium project at 7555 Mission Street. The project is one-quarter mile from the Colma BART Station and exceeds 50 dwelling units per acre density.

The city works with HOPE, Shelter Network, and other agencies to house and feed the homeless.

**Climate Change:** Daly City offers incentives to reduce vehicle miles traveled: Employees have the option to take a pre-tax payroll deduction for the purchase of Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) tickets. The city also provides free shuttle service between the Daly City BART station and city hall, emergency ride service, and bike racks and showers for bike riders. The Green Team and Climate Action Team assist city departments with environmentally friendly policy implementation and were instrumental in the development of the city's Green Vision. Daly City has made energy-efficient improvements to municipal buildings, lighting retrofits, public-transit improvements, and improvement of waste-management practices.

**Water Conservation and Management:** Daly City operates a robust street sweeping and catch basin maintenance program and has constructed bioswale stormwater treatment facilities. The city is developing a long-term waste reduction plan to prevent trash from being discharged into local waterways. The city provides recycled tertiary water to large irrigators such as golf courses, parks and street medians. The recycled water, which otherwise would be discharged into the ocean, replaces drinking water historically used for irrigation.

**Economic Development:** One of Daly City's guiding goals, adopted as part of their biennial budget, is jobs creation and economic development. Towards that goal, the city sponsored a real estate mixer for real estate brokers, developers and key landowners. A follow-up mixer is anticipated for early April 2013. The city also continues to work closely with the Chamber of Commerce in outreach to the local business community. Also in 2012, the city participated in San Mateo County's examination of ways to improve and expand the workforce development program.

## East Palo Alto

**Climate Change:** On September 20, 2011 the city adopted a Climate Action Plan (CAP). In addition to the CAP, the city is reducing greenhouse gas emissions by providing a community shuttle and implementing Cycles 8 and 9 of the Safe Routes to School program.

**Water Management and Conservation:** In June 2010, the city adopted a Water Master Plan that promotes healthy streams. East Palo Alto is currently partnering with the Sanitary District to provide residents high efficiency toilets and showerheads. Additionally, the city has a water efficiency ordinance that became effective on January 1, 2010.

**Economic Development:** East Palo Alto adopted the Four Corners Transit Oriented Development (TOD) Specific Plan which has a net development potential of 1.2 million sq. ft. of office space, 112,400 sq. ft. of retail space, and 351,000 sq. ft. of research and development. In September 2012, the city adopted an Economic Development Strategy to promote sustained economic growth.

## Foster City

**Climate Change:** Foster City is developing a Climate Action Plan that will include policies focused on mitigation of GHG emissions as well as adaptation to the effects of climate change. This plan is anticipated to be adopted with the update of the Land Use and Circulation Element in 2013.

For municipal operations, Foster City has taken many steps to reduce GHG emissions. Recently, over 2,000 city streetlights were replaced with low-energy use Light Emitting Diode (LED) fixtures. The city also switched to remote-read water meters to reduce vehicle mileage associated with meter-reading; reduced speed limits to allow for use of Neighborhood Electric Vehicles (NEV) for intra-city transportation; and eliminated permit fees for installation of solar panels. The city resurfaces streets using cold-in-place recycling of asphalt and sponsors community electronics recycling, paper shredding, and compost give-aways.

**Water Management and Conservation:** Foster City's new conservation-based water rates are tiered so that excess water usage is billed at a higher rate. Residential usage is set at a per-household baseline, while commercial irrigation usage is based on landscape audits to prevent overwatering. Usage in excess of "water budgets" is subject to a penalty. Rebates are available to commercial and residential customers for water-saving investments like smart meters, synthetic turf, drought tolerant plants, and low-water use appliances.

**Economic Development:** The City Council recently approved its Sustainable Foster City plan that contains three components: Invest in Foster City focuses on enhancing economic vitality through investment and redevelopment opportunities; Shop in Foster City encourages the growth of retail and commercial businesses; and We Are Foster City promotes Foster City as a unique community with a high quality of life.

## Half Moon Bay

**Transit Oriented Development (TOD):** In November 2012, construction began on a 40-unit senior housing facility in the downtown area. Located next to a bus stop, the building will provide residents easy access to public transportation. Shops and services, including the post office, doctors' offices, grocery stores, restaurants, and the library are all within walking distance.

**Climate Change:** Over the past year, the city has developed its non-vehicle modes of transportation by adding more pedestrian and bike trails. By the end of 2013, 2.5 miles of trail along Highway 1 will be completed. Half Moon Bay is also working on its Highway 1 Congestion Mitigation and Traffic Master Plan.

Half Moon Bay has upgraded to energy-efficient light-

ing for city street lights as well as at a majority of municipal facilities including City Hall, the Community Center, and the Library. The city is also working to reduce the amount of paper it uses by implementing an electronic document system.

**Water Management and Conservation:** Half Moon Bay promotes the "Flows to the Bay" program and has installed new catch basins in city storm drains. The city also encourages floriculture farms to reuse stormwater for irrigation. To improve water quality, the city recently installed a bioswale drainage system at the new Emergency Operations Center. Bioswales are designed to reduce and remove silt and pollution from surface runoff water and are considered environmentally superior to traditional storm sewer systems.

## Hillsborough

**Climate Change:** Hillsborough has adopted a Climate Action Plan and a Green Building Ordinance, and it has conducted a greenhouse gas inventory.

The town received over \$1.2 million in California Energy Commission energy retrofit grants and loans to upgrade its municipal lighting, water pumps, and SCADA system. SCADA is a computer control system that monitors and controls the town's water pumps and tanks. The funding assisted the town in shifting water tank filling from peak energy usage hours to off-peak hours. Twelve of the oldest, most inefficient water pumps were converted to high efficiency pumps and motors, which is significant as a majority of the town's electricity usage for municipal operations is allocated for pumping water.

**Water Management and Conservation:** Hillsborough also received a \$300,000 grant to purchase its NO-DES mobile water flushing and filtration unit. Traditionally, water companies must clean and remove minerals and bacteria from water pipes by flushing the pipes clean through fire hydrants. While this process is effective, it is very wasteful as the water used to flush the pipes becomes dirty and cannot be reused. With the mobile unit, Hillsborough is able to filter the water used



*Hillsborough's NO-DES mobile water flushing and filtration unit. Photo courtesy of Hillsborough.*

to clean the pipes and then restore it back to the system for future use. In its first year of operation, the NO-DES saved Hillsborough tens of millions of gallons of water.

Other cities and water agencies are interested in this new technology. The town hosted several field demonstrations for the SFPUC, EBMUD and BAWSCA. The town also presented at several workshops and conferences, including the Northern Chapter American Public Works Association conference and the San Mateo County Non-Point Source Pollution Prevention workshop (the NO-DES unit also eliminates stormwater discharge associated with water quality flushing programs).

Residents of Hillsborough receive Water Use Reports that show actual water use, ideal water use (based on landscape characteristics and daily weather information), and the amount of water they would receive in the event of a drought and mandatory rationing. These reports have been effective in reducing residential outdoor water use.

## Menlo Park

**Climate Change:** Menlo Park retrofitted 476 streetlights with energy-efficient LED lighting. In addition, the city recently adopted a Polystyrene Ordinance prohibiting food vendors, including restaurants, delis, cafes, markets, fast-food establishments, vendors at fairs, and food trucks from dispensing prepared food in polystyrene and styrofoam containers. Menlo Park continues to market the statewide Energy Upgrade program, which rebates residents \$1,000-\$4,000 for making energy-efficient home improvements. The city also offers a \$300 Energy Assessment Rebate for residents participating in the Energy Upgrade program.

**Water Management and Conservation:** Customers of the Menlo Park Municipal Water District are eligible for a variety of water conservation rebate programs including a free landscape survey for commer-

cial and multi-family customers. All city “irrigation” accounts have been placed in the Free Water-Budget Report program, and water-use analysis reports are distributed on a monthly basis providing each irrigation customer with their historical water consumption, recommended water-budget (based on square footage of irrigated landscape), and estimates on the amount of money that can be saved with proper watering.

**Economic Development:** Menlo Park is actively working to provide economic and workforce opportunities for individuals and businesses. The El Camino Real/Downtown Specific Plan is a blueprint for transit-oriented development and rewards creative intensification that provides public benefit and amenities. It envisions a mixture of housing, hotels, parking, retail, and open space.

## Millbrae

**Transit Oriented Development (TOD):** Millbrae has 247 TOD housing units, all located within walking distance of the Intermodal Terminal that provides access to BART and Caltrain. In the last five years, three TOD projects have been completed and one more is underway with expected completion in 2014.

**Climate Change:** Millbrae is currently drafting a Climate Action Plan. A major success story of 2012 was the completion of the Clean Energy Project, a joint effort with Siemens Building Technologies. This project included installation of a 50-kW solar photovoltaic system on the Millbrae Library. In addition, the 50-year-old heating, air conditioning, and ventilation systems at the Community Center were replaced with new, energy-efficient technologies. Nearly 1,400 municipal street lights were upgraded to state-of-the-art low induction lighting, and energy-efficient lighting for city buildings was also installed.

In addition, five parks in the city received smart irrigation controllers to save energy and water. The city’s other parks already have these controllers installed.



*Millbrae Library Solar Panel Installation, Siemens Building Industries, Luminalt Solar Energy Solutions. Kent Fields Photography.*

**Water Management and Conservation:** Millbrae’s water consumption has declined over the last 10 years, and an on-going, voluntary 10% community-wide reduction is in place. The city’s Water Resources and Conservation Program offers rebates for high efficiency toilets and clothes washers and provides free low flow showerheads (exchange program), shower timers, kitchen and bathroom faucet aerators, lawn sprinkler gauges, and toilet leak detection dye tablets.

## Pacifica

**Transit Oriented Development (TOD):** Although it has no train or BART connections, Pacifica's Park and Ride at Linda Mar is the local transit hub, as it is the midpoint for buses that travel north and south along the coastline to adjacent towns, cities, and BART stations. The city considers smart developments including mixed use and low impact development within one mile of this location as TOD. At the present time, there are several TOD projects under planning review.

**Climate Change:** Pacifica has begun planning implementation of its Climate Action Plan. As a coastal city with extensive shoreline, Pacifica is focused on learning more about the science of flooding and erosion. The city anticipates that the Littoral Cell Coastal Sediment Management Project, now underway independent of Pacifica, may provide plausible options for effective adaptation to the effects of climate change.

**Water Conservation and Management:** The Public Works Department has capital projects defined to daylight channels of existing creeks within Pacifica by removing outdated structures such as culverts.

The San Pedro Creek Flood Control Project, initiated in the late 1990's, includes the restoration of various reaches of San Pedro Creek, the restoration of a flood plain, and the replacement of the Highway 1 Bridge. The project is intended to accommodate 100 year floods that may result in heavier creek and stream flows.

The city is independent from the local water district, with whom it is working collaboratively now on grant funded capital improvement projects. One project is the reclaimed water project, which will provide reclaimed water to various irrigation systems throughout the city. This reclaimed water will also be used to irrigate the Sharp Park Golf Course. Other measures to reduce water use that the city advocates are bioretention, infiltration, and rainwater harvesting and reuse.

**Economic Development:** Currently there are 5,600 jobs in Pacifica. Through increased mixed-use development, TOD projects, and expansion of the retail sector, the city plans to increase the number of jobs to 7,000 (25%) by 2015.

## Portola Valley

**Climate Change:** In 2012, Portola Valley focused on three programs to reduce GHG emissions in the residential sector.

**Energy Upgrade Portola Valley:** Over 15 homes completed energy upgrades and received rebates from PG&E, and 56 residents participated in the Acterra High Energy Homes (HEH) program. Acterra HEH participants achieved an average savings of \$518 per year on their individual PG&E bills and a combined total savings of 32,437 kWhs of electricity and 2,357 therms of natural gas in the first year.

**Green Towns SunShares:** Portola Valley partnered with PG&E, the Bay Area Climate Collaborative, and Group Energy to organize a solar and energy assessment group buy with five similar "green" towns (Hillsborough, Woodside, Los Altos, and Los Altos Hills). Of the 38 photovoltaic systems installed across these towns, 13 are in Portola Valley.



*Student completing the Sequoias Inventory with a resident.  
Photo courtesy of the Town of Portola Valley.*

**Sequoias Inventory:** Town staff developed an energy- and water-inventory process for assessing the 200 residential units at the Sequoias, a local retirement facility. The town engaged high school students from Woodside High School's Green Academy and trained them to conduct the inventory. The students performed assessments of 40 of the units, learned about energy and water efficiency, and engaged in a mutually beneficial cross-generational experience with the Sequoias' residents.

# Redwood City

**Transit Oriented Development (TOD):** Redwood City is working to improve its housing to jobs balance by allowing residential development in areas previously zoned for commercial use. The Downtown Precise Plan, which has been a catalyst for business and workforce development, allows higher residential densities (no density cap) in the downtown district near transit.

The city has 810 existing multi-family units in downtown, with an additional 958 units under construction or in the entitlement process. In other parts of the city, 1,243 multi-family residential units are under construction or in the entitlement process. Most of these residential projects are in direct proximity to the Grand Boulevard or the downtown Caltrain Station.

**Homeless:** Redwood City's 5-year Consolidated Plan outlines strategies to prevent and reduce homelessness. The Redwood City Homeless Outreach Team (HOT) works to connect the homeless with services and access to permanent housing, while the city's Housing and Human Concerns Committee helps locate resources including affordable housing sites. In total, the

city supports 27 different nonprofit organizations that provide services for the homeless.

**Climate Change:** The city has taken a number of steps to reduce GHG emissions such as changing zoning ordinances to increase housing near work and transit. Other efforts include the installation of EV charging stations, the implementation of the "Safe Routes to School" program, and the "Last Mile Connection" and Bicycle Share programs.

**Water Conservation and Management:** Redwood City requires new developments to retain stormwater onsite to reduce flooding concerns. The city partners with the State Coastal Conservancy and the Don Edwards Refuge to utilize stormwater to enhance habitat restoration of certain salt ponds. The salt ponds will also serve as stormwater detention to reduce flooding.

System water audits, leak detection, and repair are conducted on an ongoing basis, while the city's public information program promotes water conservation through utility bill inserts, banners, a website, and the distribution of water saving devices at public events.

# San Bruno

**Climate Change:** San Bruno's Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Plan focuses on identifying current and projected sources of greenhouse gases and targets a 15% reduction of these gases by 2020. Some initiatives are already in place, such as commercial and residential green building ordinances, water conservation incentives, and participation in Energy Upgrade California. Other initiatives currently being researched include fleet upgrade to fuel efficient vehicles, installation of energy efficient streetlights, and solar energy sources for government operations.

**Water Management and Conservation:** San Bruno monitors new developments closely to reduce stormwater runoff and prevent flooding. City-wide enforcement includes requirements for rain gardens, landscape areas, and permeable surfaces. The city also utilizes a consulting agency to conduct C.3 Permit reviews to validate a requirement for site designs of new developments and redevelopments to minimize the

area of new roofs and paving. Where feasible, pervious surfaces are used instead of paving so that stormwater runoff can infiltrate to the underlying soil.

In collaboration with the Bay Area Water Supply and Conservation Agency (BAWSCA), San Bruno offers water conservation programs such as rebates for high efficiency appliances and for replacing lawns with water-efficient landscaping. The city recently added an additional tiered level to its water use fee schedule that offers cost savings for residents who conserve water.

**Economic Development:** San Bruno is working to encourage economic development through preparation of the Transit Corridors Plan, which, if adopted, would promote multifamily housing and commercial development along commercial corridors surrounding the new San Bruno Caltrain Station. The plan would allow for up to 1.0 million square feet of office, 147,700 square feet of retail, 1,610 housing units, and 190 hotel rooms.

## San Carlos

**Transit Oriented Development (TOD):** San Carlos has two major TOD proposals in the planning stages. Wheeler Plaza involves redevelopment of a city parking lot and adjacent parcels; the final Environmental Impact Report (EIR) has been approved by the City Council. The San Carlos Transit Village would redevelop 10 acres on El Camino Real, north and south of Holly Street along the CalTrain corridor, to include up to 281 rental housing units, office space, commercial space, and a pedestrian plaza; the final EIR has been approved by the City Council.

**Climate Change:** San Carlos' Climate Action Plan has over 20 measures designed to reduce Greenhouse

Gas Emissions both in city operations and in the community. The recent City Agency GHG Report for 2010 shows a 12% reduction in GHG emissions over the baseline year of 2005.

A key success this year was the partnership with PG&E, the Chamber of Commerce, and small and medium size businesses in the city to reduce energy consumption before "time of day" rates went into effect in November 2012. Several businesses cut their energy consumption by 20,000 to 30,000 kilowatt hours each. Because of the program's effectiveness, PG&E is now expanding it to other nearby cities.

## San Mateo

**Transit Oriented Development (TOD):** A total of 2,065 residential units have been approved in six different projects within the city's TOD zones. To date, 68 have been constructed, an additional 60 are under construction, and 264 are in building permit review.

**Homelessness:** The City of San Mateo participated in the development of HOPE: Housing Our People Effectively, a 10-year Plan to end Homelessness in San Mateo County. In addition, the city purchased The Vendome for permanent supportive housing for the chronically homeless and contracts with Shelter Network to operate the facility.

San Mateo contributes a "fair share" payment for operation of a regional emergency homeless shelter for individuals operated by Samaritan House. The city also provides grants to Shelter Network for operation of First Step for Families, a family focused emergency shelter program, as well as to CORA (Community Overcoming Relationship Abuse), which provides emergency shelter for domestic violence victims. The city also provides subsidies to HIP Housing, Mental Health Association, and Samaritan House for other programs to assist those who are homeless or at risk of becoming homelessness.

**Climate Change:** The city's General Plan contains a number of policies intended to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, while the plan's appendices contain several specific items to guide this effort, including a Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory, Sustainable Initiatives Plan, and Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Program.

Other actions taken by the city to reduce GHG emissions include rebuilding Fire Station 23 and upgrading Station 24 to meet green building standards; implementing a Green Office Supply Policy for City Purchases; and installing solar panels on the main library.

**Water Management and Conservation:** The City of San Mateo is currently enforcing the state model ordinance for landscape water efficiency but is also in the process of adopting its own landscape water efficiency ordinance.

**Economic Development:** The city will be developing a new Economic Development approach over the next nine months, as a result of the State of California's dissolution of Redevelopment Agencies.

## South San Francisco

**Climate Change:** South San Francisco's newly adopted Bicycle Master Plan promotes bicycling throughout the city and has a Commuter Program for city employees that provides bike to work incentives. In 2012, the city adopted a commercial PACE (Property Assessed Clean Energy) program that offers financing to local businesses for installing energy-saving upgrades such as solar panels and efficient lighting.

The city is using its Metropolitan Transportation Commission-funded \$600,000 Station Area Land Use Grant to plan for a more sustainable downtown that includes Transit Oriented Development and improved access to the Caltrain Station with pedestrian, bicycle, and bus connectivity. It will also create building, open space, and street design standards that focus on pedestrian-oriented design and safety.

**Water Management and Conservation:** South San Francisco has implemented the Municipal Regional Stormwater Permit's requirement for Low Impact

Development as it applies to all new and redevelopment projects. Bioswales have been incorporated into landscape improvements to reduce stormwater runoff. The city has worked to remove trash from its waterways through cleanup events and the installation of approximately 80 trash capture devices in storm drain inlets. A newly instituted pilot program uses permeable recycled rubber paving in lieu of concrete paving.

The city's efforts to reduce water usage include: conducting water meter audits; reviewing the past five years of water usage for parks and facilities; creating an inventory of water meter locations, and analyzing irrigation schedules and flow and system efficiency.

**Economic Development:** The city's primary economic development focus is workforce investment with special emphasis on: skills upgrading, Skyline College Certificate Programs in biotechnology and green technology, and coordination with the Workforce Investment Board to sponsor and host career fairs and training programs.

## Woodside

**Climate Change:** Woodside has converted its small vehicle fleet to hybrids and is upgrading to energy-efficient light fixtures in Town Hall.

**Water Conservation and Management:** As a predominantly rural, residential community, Woodside has long had policies that encourage the preservation of the natural landscape on residential development projects. This includes keeping development away from streams and riparian corridors. Since Woodside has few sidewalks, most roadsides have natural water

passages to promote the filtration of water. These features allow Woodside to use the natural watershed system to promote healthy waterways and address flooding concerns.

A recent water audit was conducted on the landscaping at Town Hall, and as a result adjustments were made to the watering regimen to reduce use. The town administers state regulations regarding water conservation measures for new landscaping over 5,000 square feet.



# County of San Mateo (Unincorporated)

**Transit Oriented Development (TOD):** There are 382 TOD units in the unincorporated portion of the county; no units were completed in 2012.

**Homeless:** The county provides significant funding to community based organizations working to prevent homelessness and to assist those who have become homeless. In 2012, the county provided an additional \$500,000 in grants to organizations addressing food and shelter needs as part of a \$1 million grant program through the Silicon Valley Community Foundation.

**Climate Change:** In 2012, the Board of Supervisors approved the county's 2010 Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory for Government Operations and the Climate Action Plan for Government Operations, which guide the county's greenhouse gas reduction efforts. The County Planning Department is currently drafting a Climate Action Plan and an Energy Efficiency amendment to its General Plan; adoption is anticipated in the first half of 2013. The county is also piloting telework programs for its employees to reduce commute-related emissions. In addition, the county helps implement Energy Upgrade California, a statewide home energy efficiency program.

In 2012, the county completed a number of energy saving projects. The Hall of Justice's new energy-efficient economizer, boiler, and DDC controls are estimated to save \$99,785 in energy-related costs in 2012. The county parking structure's lighting retrofit, which included new fixtures (T-8 fluorescent bi-level vapor tight lamps) and lighting controls, will save 248,200 kWh of electricity annually (the average Californian uses 6.7 kWh annually). Other projects include Camp Glenwood's solar hot water system upgrade and a retro-commissioning upgrade at the Crime Lab.

**Water Management and Conservation:** The county ended roadside spraying as a vegetation management practice this year. Water conservation projects are included in the County Operations Strategic Energy Master Plan, which has been adopted by the Board of Supervisors and is being implemented. In October 2012, the Board of Supervisors voted unanimously to ban the free distribution of single-use carry-out bags at retail outlets. Retailers in unincorporated parts of the County will have until April 2013 to phase out plastic bags.

# Cities at a Glance

City/County	Population (2013)	White (% , 2011)	Asian (% , 2011)	African American (% , 2011)	Hispanic (% , 2011)	Other (% , 2011)
Atherton	6,893	81%	10%	0.2%	5%	4%
Belmont	26,316	57%	22%	2.2%	12%	7%
Brisbane	4,379	44%	25%	0.8%	25%	6%
Burlingame	29,426	63%	20%	1.3%	12%	4%
Colma	1,458	15%	43%	1.0%	40%	2%
Daly City	103,347	14%	55%	2.9%	24%	4%
East Palo Alto	28,675	7%	3%	17.3%	62%	10%
Foster City	31,120	41%	45%	2.0%	6%	5%
Half Moon Bay	11,581	64%	4%	1.1%	30%	2%
Hillsborough	11,115	66%	26%	0.6%	2%	5%
Menlo Park	32,679	62%	10%	5.7%	18%	4%
Millbrae	22,228	43%	39%	1.9%	14%	3%
Pacifica	37,948	56%	19%	2.0%	17%	6%
Portola Valley	4,448	87%	6%	0.0%	6%	1%
Redwood City	79,074	46%	11%	2.6%	37%	4%
San Bruno	42,828	37%	26%	1.9%	28%	8%
San Carlos	28,931	76%	10%	0.5%	9%	4%
San Mateo	99,061	48%	19%	2.0%	25%	6%
South San Francisco	65,127	23%	36%	2.3%	34%	6%
Woodside	5,441	85%	4%	0.2%	7%	4%
<b>Unincorporated SMC</b>	<b>63,603</b>	<b>NA</b>	<b>NA</b>	<b>NA</b>	<b>NA</b>	<b>NA</b>
<b>San Mateo County</b>	<b>735,678</b>	<b>42%</b>	<b>25%</b>	<b>2.7%</b>	<b>26%</b>	<b>5%</b>

Note: the race categories White, Asian, African American and Other refer to single race and non-Hispanic, respectively.  
 Data Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2011; State of California Department of Finance

NA = not available or not applicable

## APPENDIX

### KEY INDICATOR: INCOME INEQUALITY, PAGES 11–18

#### Income Distribution

Data for Gini Coefficient are from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 2011, 1 year estimates (USA, CA, SMC); Eurostat (Sweden); World Bank (Mexico, South Africa); Conference Board of Canada (Canada). Data for Mexico are for 2008, South Africa are for 2006, and Canada are for 2010. Information on study of American's views on income inequality comes from: Ariely, D. (2012, August 2). Americans Want to Live in a Much More Equal Country (They Just Don't Realize It). *The Atlantic*, retrieved at [www.theatlantic.com](http://www.theatlantic.com).

Data on U.S. median household income from 1979-2007 and trends on growing income inequality are from: (2011, October 25). Trends in the Distribution of Household Income, 1979-2007. *Congressional Budget Office*, retrieved from <http://www.cbo.gov/publication/42729>.

Data on family income in California and information about the effects of the Great Recession on income distribution in the state are from: Bohn, S. and Schiff, E. (2011, December). Great Recession and Distribution of Income in California. *Public Policy Institute of California*, retrieved from [www.ppic.org](http://www.ppic.org). Data on household income distribution in San Mateo County and median household income are from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 1-year estimates. Inflation adjustment was done using the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics CPI-U series.

The data for CEO and worker average annual compensation were obtained from the Economic Policy Institute, Issue Brief 331, CEO pay and the top 1%: How executive compensation and financial-sector pay have fueled income inequality, by Lawrence Mishel and Natalie Sabadish, May 2, 2012, available at <http://www.epi.org/publication/ib331-ceo-pay-top-1-percent/> and the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. Information on the social gradient is from Urban Habitat, Bay Area Health Inequities by Bob Prentice, available at <http://urbanhabitat.org/node/2816>.

Data on the earnings for San Mateo County CEOs are from: Willis, D. (2012, July 16), Compensation data for the top 199 Bay Area CEOs, *Mercury News Data Center*, retrieved from [http://www.mercurynews.com/data/ci\\_21060181/executive-pay?source=pkg](http://www.mercurynews.com/data/ci_21060181/executive-pay?source=pkg). Data for individual earnings are from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2011, 1-year estimates.

#### Income Inequality and Education

Data on median personal income by educational attainment are from the U.S. Census Bureau, American

Community Survey, 1-year estimates. Inflation adjustment was done using the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics CPI-U series. Data on the Percent of 12<sup>th</sup> Graders Completing UC/CSU Course Requirements and School District Per Pupil Expenditures are from Ed-Data: Education Data Partnership: CDE, EdSource, and FCMAT, retrieved from [www.ed-data.k12.ca.us](http://www.ed-data.k12.ca.us).

Information on the income-education gap is from the following sources: Tavernise, S. (2012, February 9). Education Gap Grows Between Rich and Poor, *Studies Say*. *New York Times*, retrieved from <http://nytimes.com>. Reardon, S. (2011). The widening academic achievement gap between the rich and the poor: New evidence and possible explanations. *Center for Education Policy Analysis, Stanford University*, retrieved from <http://cepa.stanford.edu/content/widening-academic-achievement-gap-between-rich-and-poor-new-evidence-and-possible>. Bapat, S. (2012, July 31). Back to School: How Educational Economics is Leading to a Wider Gap Between Rich and Poor. *Center for Education Policy Analysis, Stanford University*, retrieved from <http://cepa.stanford.edu/news/back-school-how-educational-economics-leading-wider-gap-between-rich-and-poor>.

Information on Governor Brown's proposed school funding plan is from: Watanabe, T. (2013, February 24). Brown's School Funding Plan Draws Mixed Reactions. *Los Angeles Times*, retrieved at <http://latimes.com>. Data on school funding in the county are from Education Data Partnerships, accessed at: <http://www.ed-data.k12.ca.us>

#### Income Inequality and Poverty

Information on the Federal Poverty Level (FPL) for a family of three (2011) is from the U.S. Census Bureau, retrieved from <http://www.census.gov/hhes/www/poverty/data/threshld/index.html> 2011. Information on the Self Sufficiency Standard (SSS) is from The Insight Center for Community Economic Development, retrieved from <http://www.insightcced.org/>. SSS data are for a family of three (2 adults and one infant).

#### Income by Race/Ethnicity and Income by Gender

Income by race/ethnicity and income by gender data are from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 1-year estimates. Inflation adjustment was done using the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics CPI-U series.

#### Income Inequality and Health

The data for health inequality in San Mateo County were compiled from the San Mateo County Health System, *Get Healthy San Mateo City Health Profiles*, for average age at death and the American Community Survey, 2011, 5-year

estimates for median household income and the poverty rate. Information on mortality risk and income inequality is from Lochner, K (2001). State Level Income Inequality and Individual Mortality Risk: A Prospective, Multilevel Study, *American Journal of Public Health*, pp. 385-391.

**Economic Mobility:** Data on economic mobility in the United States are from: Economic Mobility Project. (2012, July 9). Pursuing the American Dream: Economic Mobility Across Generations. *PEW Charitable Trusts*, retrieved from <http://www.pewstates.org/research/reports/pursuing-the-american-dream-85899403228>.

## POPULATION, PAGES 19–20

Population data are from the California Department of Finance Demographic Research Unit. San Mateo County and all other Bay Area counties population data come from E-6: Population Estimates and Components of Change by County (data are for July 1) and E-2: California County Population Estimates and Percent Change, both accessed at <http://www.dof.ca.gov/research/demographic>. Figures reported in previous years' Indicators Reports have been revised to reflect changes made by the California Department of Finance. Population for cities in the county is from E-1: City/County Population Estimates with Annual Percent Change. Current and projected populations by age group and by race/ethnicity are from Report P-1 State and County Population Projections by Major Age Groups and by Race/Ethnicity, 2010-2060 (by decade). Population profile by Race/Ethnicity at the city level is from U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2011.

## ECONOMY: EMPLOYMENT, PAGES 22–26

### Jobs and Unemployment

Employment rates and unemployment rates for California, San Mateo County, and the unemployment rate for the sub-county level are from the California Employment Development Department (EDD), Labor Market Information division, retrieved from [www.labormarketinfo.edd.ca.gov](http://www.labormarketinfo.edd.ca.gov). Employment estimates do not represent the number of San Mateo County residents with jobs, but rather the number of people employed in the county. Data on jobs in San Mateo County are primarily from the California Employment Development Department's (EDD) monthly Current Employment Statistics survey given to a sampling of California employers. The resulting reported number of jobs may underestimate the actual number of workers, as self-employed persons, unpaid family workers, and private household workers are not counted. Information on top employers in the county is from the San Francisco Business Times 2013 Book of Lists. The unemployment rate is the number of unemployed persons as a percentage of the labor force. The unemployment rate for the United States is from the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics: [www.bls.gov](http://www.bls.gov).

### Wages

Average weekly wage data are from the California Economic Development Department, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, retrieved from [www.edd.ca.gov](http://www.edd.ca.gov). Data do not include wages for government jobs. Inflation adjustment was done using the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics CPI-U series. The link between employment and health is from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation County Health Rankings, retrieved from [www.countyhealthrankings.org](http://www.countyhealthrankings.org). Information on the new minimum wage law in San Jose is from: Woolfolk, J. (2013, March 10). Minimum wage: California, U.S., other cities. *San Jose Mercury News*, retrieved from [www.mercurynews.com](http://www.mercurynews.com).

### Transportation: Mobility

Data on county of employment for San Mateo County residents and Bay Area commute patterns are from San Mateo County Economic Development Association (SAMCEDA). (2013, February 8). Labor Supply and Commute Patterns in San Mateo County. *Developed by the Bay Area Council Economic Institute*, retrieved from <http://samceda.org>. Data on travel modes to work for San Mateo County residents are from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2011. Data on public transit ridership are from SamTrans' Fiscal Year 2012 Average Weekday Ridership Report; this captures data during their fiscal year, which runs from July 1–June 30. Bart data show Colma, SSF, SB, SFO and Millbrae (not Daly City). Information on the Bike Sharing program is from: San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency Website retrieved from <http://www.sfmta.com/cms/bshare/indxbishare.htm> and also from the Bay Area Air Quality Management Website, retrieved from [www.baaqmd.gov](http://www.baaqmd.gov).

## ECONOMY: HOUSING, PAGES 27–30

### Housing Affordability

Information on the median sales price of a single-family home and condominium from 2000 -2012 is from the San Mateo County Association of Realtors, [www.samcar.org/index.cfm/sales\\_statistics.htm](http://www.samcar.org/index.cfm/sales_statistics.htm). Inflation adjustment was done using the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics CPI-U series. Data on average rents in the county are from the December, 2012 San Mateo County Housing Indicators. *San Mateo County Department of Housing*, retrieved from [www.co.sanmateo.ca.us](http://www.co.sanmateo.ca.us). The income needed to afford the mortgage payment on a home or condominium or to rent an apartment was calculated based on the following assumptions: (1) local lender's guidelines that homeowners not pay more than 35 percent of gross household income per year for housing, (2) a 20% down payment and 30-year fully amortized loan, and (3) an interest rate on a 30-year fixed rate mortgage of 3.75% (according to Wells Fargo on 3/11/13, retrieved from <https://www.wellsfargo.com/mortgage/rates>). Information on the Housing Endearment and Regional Trust (HEART) is from their website, retrieved from

www.heartofsmc.org.

The information on the percentage of households that can afford an entry-level home 2003-2012 (all data are from Q4) is from the California Association of Realtors' First-time Buyer Housing Affordability Index, found at <http://www.car.org/marketdata/data/ftbhai/>. Data on the percent of households paying more than 35% of income on monthly housing costs are from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2011, 1-year estimates. Information on the San Mateo County Coalition for Local Affordable Housing is from the Housing Leadership Coalition, [www.hlcsmc.org](http://www.hlcsmc.org).

### **Housing Stock**

Data on the year housing structures were built in San Mateo County and California are from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2011, 1-year estimates.

### **Housing Supply**

Information on housing supply and production targets in San Mateo County is from: (2008, June) Association of Bay Area Governments, Regional Housing Needs Plan, 2007-2014. *The Association of Bay Area Governments*, retrieved from [www.abag.ca.gov/planning/housingneeds/](http://www.abag.ca.gov/planning/housingneeds/).

## **ECONOMY: INNOVATION AND ECONOMIC GROWTH, PAGES 31–35**

### **Skilled Workforce**

Data on educational attainment of workforce are from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2011, 1-year estimates. The information on percent of workforce in STEM jobs for San Jose region, California, and the U.S. is from (2012, June 20). The Number and Proportion of STEM Jobs by State. *Economic Modeling Specialists International*, retrieved from [www.economicmodeling.com](http://www.economicmodeling.com). San Mateo County information comes from the U.S. Census Bureau, Public Use Microdata Sample (PUMS) website. Information on STEM jobs in the U.S. comes from: Why Stem Education Matters. *National Math & Science Initiative*, retrieved from [http://iei.nd.edu/assets/78206/why\\_stem\\_education\\_matters.pdf](http://iei.nd.edu/assets/78206/why_stem_education_matters.pdf). Locke, G. (2011, July 14). STEM Jobs Help America Win the Future. *The White House Blog*, retrieved from [www.whitehouse.gov/blog](http://www.whitehouse.gov/blog).

### **Venture Capital**

Data on venture capital (VC) funding, share of Silicon Valley VC funding, and top San Mateo County companies receiving VC funding are from: (2012). The MoneyTree Report. *Price Waterhouse Coopers. Data provided by Thomson Reuters*, retrieved from [www.pwcmoneytree.com](http://www.pwcmoneytree.com). . . Inflation adjustment was done using the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics CPI-U series. Information on the Samsung Innovation Center is from: O'Brien, C. (2012, February 4). Samsung reveals details of Silicon Valley innovation center. *Los Angeles Times*, retrieved from [www.latimes.com](http://www.latimes.com). And, Reisinger, D. (2013,

February 12). Samsung's Open Innovation Center seeks startup juice. CNET, retrieved from <http://news.cnet.com>.

### **Location Quotients**

The location quotients were calculated from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages Data conducted by the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics using the online location quotient calculator at <http://www.bls.gov/cew/cewlq.htm>.

### **Total Taxable Sales**

Data for total taxable sales for San Mateo County were compiled from the California State Board of Equalization, accessible at <http://www.boe.ca.gov/news/tsalescont.htm>. Inflation adjustment was done using the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics CPI-U series.

### **Green Business**

The data for the green business program certifications were supplied by Kim Springer, Resource Conservation Program Manager for San Mateo County.

## **EQUITY: COMMUNITY COHESION AND SAFETY, PAGES 38–41**

### **Community Connectedness**

Data on the percent of adults lacking adequate social-emotional support and of the connection to overall health are from the County Health Rankings & Roadmap. *Robert Wood Johnson Foundation*, retrieved from <http://www.countyhealthrankings.org>. Information on the school protective and connectedness factors comes from The California Healthy Kids Survey, San Mateo County Elementary, 2009-2011.

### **Healthy Families**

Data on child abuse referrals come from the University of California at Berkeley, School of Social Welfare, Center for Social Research's *Child Welfare Services/Case Management System Reports* found at [http://cssr.berkeley.edu/ucb\\_childwelfare/default.aspx](http://cssr.berkeley.edu/ucb_childwelfare/default.aspx). Data represent unduplicated counts of children per year who have been identified as a potential victim in a child abuse referral. Information on the percent of households with children headed by a single-parent is from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2011, 1-year estimates. Information on the societal effects of more children living in single parent families is from: Shore, R. and Shore, B. (2009, July). KIDS COUNT Indicator Brief Increasing the Percentage of Children Living in Two-Parent Families. *Annie E. Casey Foundation*, retrieved from [www.aecf.org](http://www.aecf.org).

### **Civic Engagement: Voter Participation**

Voter participation information for San Mateo County is from the Elections Results Archive of the San Mateo County Assessor, retrieved from [www.shapethefuture.org](http://www.shapethefuture.org). Voter information for the state and surrounding counties is

from the California Secretary of State, accessed at <http://vote.sos.ca.gov>.

### **Civic Engagement: Library Usage**

Data showing the total number of registered borrowers and the attendance at public libraries in the county are from California Library Statistics 2012 (2010-2011 fiscal year). *California State Library, Library Development Services Bureau*, retrieved from [www.library.ca.gov/lds/librarystats.html](http://www.library.ca.gov/lds/librarystats.html).

### **Crime and Safety**

Data on violent crime rates are from the State of California Department of Justice, Office of the Attorney General's Criminal Justice Statistics Center, accessed at <http://ag.ca.gov>. Information on the perceptions of safety for fifth grade students is from The California Healthy Kids Survey, San Mateo County Elementary, 2009-2011.

### **Poverty**

Data on the percent of residents living below the federal poverty level and data on child poverty rates (percent of residents under 18 years living below the federal poverty level) are from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2007-2011, 1-year estimates.

## **EQUITY: COMMUNITY HEALTH, PAGES 42–45**

### **Access to Healthcare**

Data on healthcare insurance coverage were obtained from the San Mateo County Health System, specifically, the 1998, 2001, 2004, 2008, and 2013 Community Health and Quality of Life Surveys. Included are adults between 18-64 years of age. Income categories reflect respondent's household income as a ratio to the Federal Poverty Level (FPL) for their household size.

### **Causes of Death**

Mortality data for the county at large and by race/ethnicity are from the San Mateo County Health System based on primary data from the California Department of Health Services, Center for Health Statistics, Death Records for 1990-2010. Data on the annual rate of Potential Years of Life Lost (YPLL) were obtained from the San Mateo County Health Department.

### **Prenatal and Maternal Care**

Percent of birth with adequate prenatal care statistics are from the San Mateo County Health Department, which compiled them using information from the California Department of Health Services, Center for Health Statistics, Birth Records for 1990-2010. Data on infant mortality by race/ethnicity are from the San Mateo County Health Department, which compiled them from statistics provided by the California Department of Health Services, Center for Health Statistics, 2012.

### **Healthy Behaviors and Risk Factor**

The adult obesity data were provided by the San Mateo County Health Department using data from the 1998, 2001, 2004, 2008, and 2013 Community Health and

Quality of Life Surveys. Included are adults between 18-64 years of age and Hispanic includes any race. Other race categories refer to non-Hispanics. Information on obesity levels among children was also provided by the San Mateo County Health System and rely on information from the Lucille Packard Foundation for Children's Health, 2011. The statistics on the percent of 7<sup>th</sup> graders meeting all 6 Basic Fitness Standards were provided by the San Mateo County Health System and compiled from the California Department of Education, DataQuest 2012 and refer to the school year 2010-11. The percent of adults who are current smokers shows data provided by the San Mateo Health Department using data from the 1998, 2001, 2004, 2008, and 2013 Community Health and Quality of Life Surveys. Included are adults between 18-64 years of age and Hispanic includes any race. Other race categories refer to non-Hispanics. The data shown for California and the United States are from the Centers for Disease Control, BRFSS.

## **EQUITY: EDUCATION, PAGES 46–49**

### **Student/Schools Profile**

Public school enrollment by race/ethnicity and average class size data are from Ed-Data: Education Data Partnership: CDE, EdSource, and FCMAT, retrieved from [www.ed-data.k12.ca.us](http://www.ed-data.k12.ca.us). Data shown are for 2011-2012 school year.

### **Public School Funding**

Information on total expenditures per student in San Mateo County School Districts is from the 2010-2011 school year and comes from Ed-Data: Education Data Partnership: CDE, EdSource, and FCMAT, retrieved from [www.ed-data.k12.ca.us](http://www.ed-data.k12.ca.us).

### **Testing: Third Grade Reading Proficiency**

Information on percent of third graders scoring proficient or higher on English Language Arts/CST tests comes from the California Department of Education, found at: <http://dq.cde.ca.gov/dataquest/>. Socio-economically disadvantaged is defined as a student whose parents have not received a high school diploma or a student who participates in the free or reduced price lunch program (also known as the National School Lunch Program).

### **Graduation and Dropout Rates**

Data on graduation and dropout rates are from California Department of Education, found at: <http://dq.cde.ca.gov/dataquest/>. Information about the societal impacts of high school dropouts is from: (2010). High School Dropouts in America. *The Alliance for Excellent Education*, retrieved from <http://www.all4ed.org/files/HighSchoolDropouts.pdf>.

### **College Preparedness**

The percent of high school graduates with UC/CSU requirements shows the number of 12th-grade graduates completing all the courses required for University of

California (UC) and/or California State University (CSU) entrance with a grade of “C” or better. The data are from Ed-Data: Education Data Partnership: CDE, EdSource, and FCMAT, retrieved from [www.ed-data.k12.ca.us](http://www.ed-data.k12.ca.us). Information on student loan debt is from: Fry, R. (2012, September 26). A Record One-in-Five Households Now Owe Student Loan Debt. *PEW Research Center*, retrieved from [www.pewresearch.org](http://www.pewresearch.org).

## ENVIRONMENT: CLIMATE AND ENERGY, PAGES 52–57

### Greenhouse Gas Emissions

Metric tons are used (2,204.6 pounds) for carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) emissions, as metric tons are the standard convention for reporting CO<sub>2</sub>. For solid waste emissions (of methane) metric tons carbon dioxide equivalent (CO<sub>2</sub>e) is used, which converts the warming potential of methane into carbon dioxide equivalent terms. The calculation of total carbon dioxide emissions in the county is estimated as the sum of 1) natural gas use in the county, 2) electricity use in the county (which produces carbon dioxide at the generation source), 3) on-road transportation in the county (fuel consumption), and 4) solid waste emissions (in methane, which is converted to metric tons CO<sub>2</sub>e). The calculation **does not** include emissions from planes, ships, off-road equipment, or a number of other miscellaneous sources, so it should not be compared directly with detailed carbon emissions inventories such as the one completed by the Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD), found here [http://www.baaqmd.gov/pln/emission\\_inventory.htm](http://www.baaqmd.gov/pln/emission_inventory.htm).

Information on gasoline and diesel consumption in San Mateo County is from the California Air Resources Board EMFAC Database, retrieved from [www.arb.ca.gov/msei/msei.htm](http://www.arb.ca.gov/msei/msei.htm). Gasoline is converted to CO<sub>2</sub> using an emission factor of 19.43 pounds of CO<sub>2</sub> per gallon of gasoline, which comes from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, *State Workbook: Methodologies for Estimating Greenhouse Gas Emissions*, November 1992. Diesel is converted to CO<sub>2</sub> using an emission factor of 21.05 pounds of CO<sub>2</sub> per gallon of diesel.

Electricity and natural gas consumption data are from the California Energy Commission and Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E). In 2005, 10.76 percent of San Mateo County’s electricity consumption came from direct access customers (customers not purchasing their electricity from PG&E) per the California Energy Commission. We used this figure as an estimate for each year and used the conversion factor of 700.4 pounds of CO<sub>2</sub> per megawatt, which was the annual emission rate for California for 2004 as estimated by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency found at <http://www.epa.gov/cleanenergy/energy-and-you/how-clean.html>. This rate was used for each year as it was the only statewide estimate available. The remaining

89.24 percent of electricity was converted to CO<sub>2</sub> using emission factors from PG&E and California PUC. In 2009, PG&E reported an emissions factor of 0.641 lbs. CO<sub>2</sub>. The natural gas conversion factor was 13.45 pounds CO<sub>2</sub> per therm. California PUC and the Climate Action Registry have approved both of these factors.

Data on solid waste generated in San Mateo County are from the California Integrated Waste Management Board’s (CIWMB) Disposal Reporting System found at <http://www.ciwmb.ca.gov/LGCentral/Reports/DRS/>. CO<sub>2</sub> is generated from solid waste decomposition, but it is accepted practice to **not** count this so-called “biogenic CO<sub>2</sub>” in emissions inventories. Methane is, however, produced in large quantities in landfills and is included in this inventory. We convert methane to metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub>e by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s Waste Reduction Model (WARM) [http://www.epa.gov/climatechange/wycd/waste/calculators/Warm\\_home.html](http://www.epa.gov/climatechange/wycd/waste/calculators/Warm_home.html). The total tonnage of waste disposed and material used as alternative daily cover was converted to CO<sub>2</sub> by using the general municipal solid waste conversion in the WARM model. The CO<sub>2</sub> generated from waste being transported to landfills outside of the county is not included in either the waste or the transportation numbers.

Information on California’s Cap and Trade Program is from: Associated Press. (2012, November 15). Carbon Cap and Trade Launches. *San Jose Mercury News*, retrieved from: [www.mercurynews.com](http://www.mercurynews.com); Rogers, P. (2012, November 10). California’s landmark global warming law becomes real this week with first cap-and-trade auctions, *San Jose Mercury News*, retrieved from [www.mercurynews.com](http://www.mercurynews.com). Information on Climate Action Plans comes from the San Mateo County Climate Energy Watch, retrieved from [http://www.smcenergywatch.com/countywide\\_climate\\_action.shtml](http://www.smcenergywatch.com/countywide_climate_action.shtml).

### Transportation: Vehicle Miles Traveled and Fuel Consumption

Information on vehicle miles traveled and vehicle fuel consumption in San Mateo County is from the California Air Resources Board EMFAC Database, retrieved from [www.arb.ca.gov/msei/msei.htm](http://www.arb.ca.gov/msei/msei.htm). Data on California, San Mateo, and Bay Area county populations are from the California Department of Finance. Information on cleaner cars is from the California Air Resources Board Clean Vehicle Project, retrieved from <http://arb.ca.gov/msprog/aqip/cvrp.htm>.

### Energy Use

Data on electricity and natural gas use at the county level are from the California Energy Commission, California Energy Consumption Database, found at [www.ecdms.energy.ca.gov](http://www.ecdms.energy.ca.gov). Electricity and natural gas figures are converted from therms and kilowatts to British thermal units (100,000 Btu per therm of natural gas and 3,413 Btu

per kWh of electricity.) City energy use (electricity and natural gas) was provided by Pacific Gas & Electric.

### **Energy Supply**

Data on the 2011 energy mix sources for PG&E's delivered electricity are from their website [www.pge.com/about/environment/pge/cleanenergy](http://www.pge.com/about/environment/pge/cleanenergy). Data on 2011 state energy mix were found at California Energy Commission: [http://energymalmanac.ca.gov/electricity/total\\_system\\_power.html](http://energymalmanac.ca.gov/electricity/total_system_power.html). National 2011 energy mix data were found at U.S. Energy Information Administration Annual Energy Review 2011, retrieved from <http://www.eia.gov/totalenergy/data/annual/index.cfm#electricity>. Information on Green Button Connect comes from Pacific Gas & Electric. Information on the California Renewable Portfolio Standard comes from the California Public Utilities Commission, retrieved from <http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/PUC/energy/Renewables/index.htm>.

### **Green Buildings**

Information on the number of Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certified and registered buildings in San Mateo County, square footage, and project name is from the U.S. Green Building Council's Database of all LEED Projects <http://www.usgbc-ncc.org>, accessed January 2013. Information on the number and type of green building ordinances as of March, 2013 was from individual city websites and city municipal codes.

## **ENVIRONMENT: LAND USE, PAGES 58–61**

### **Land Use Breakdown**

Data on land use breakdown and county land use are from the report: Existing Land Use in 2005, supplied by the *Association of Bay Area Governments*.

### **Land Use**

Information on land use policies comes from the SSMC 2012-2013 City Survey, submitted to all cities and towns (as well as the county and the community college district). The survey asked about the adoption of a range of land use policies and also gathered data on existing housing stock, acres of parks, and amount of transit oriented development. SSMC cannot perform independent verification of all data submitted in the survey.

### **Parks and Open Space**

Data on open space are from the The Bay Area Open Space Council's *Bay Area Protected Lands Database* found at: <http://www.openspacecouncil.org> (Registration required). Information on size of each county in square miles was obtained at the U.S. Census Bureau's Quick Facts site: <http://quickfacts.census.gov/qfd/states/06/06001.html>. The numbers were converted from square miles to square acres using this site: <http://www.metric-conversions.org/area/square-miles-to-acres.htm>. Information on San Mateo County Parks was obtained from their Environmental Quality Committee Report

November 8, 2011. Information on the Peninsula Open Space Trust was obtained at [www.openspacetrust.org](http://www.openspacetrust.org).

### **Food and Agriculture**

Data on San Mateo County agricultural production are from the San Mateo County Department of Agriculture/Weights and Measures, *San Mateo County: 2011 Agricultural Crop Report*, found at <http://www.co.sanmateo.ca.us/agwm>. Additional information came from emails with Maria Mastrangelo, Deputy Agricultural Commissioner, and Fred Crowder, Agricultural Commissioner. Inflation adjustment was done using the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics CPI-U series. Information on the HEAL project is from their website, retrieved from [www.thehealproject.org](http://www.thehealproject.org).

## **ENVIRONMENT: NATURAL RESOURCES, PAGES 62–67**

### **Air Quality**

Data on the percent of monitored days with good air quality index scores are from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's AirData Tile Plot, accessed at [http://www.epa.gov/airquality/airdata/ad\\_viz\\_tile.html](http://www.epa.gov/airquality/airdata/ad_viz_tile.html). Emergency department visits for asthma information comes from California Breathing, accessed at <http://californiabreathing.org>.

### **Water Supply and Demand**

Information on the current and projected supply and demand for water in San Mateo County, per capita usage, water use by supply source, and the Lawn Be Gone Program is from the Bay Area Water Supply and Conservation Agency's (BAWSCA) Annual Survey FY 2010-11, found at <http://bawasca.org>. Water use is reported according to their fiscal year. Additional assistance in interpreting the data came from emails with Nicole Sandkulla, Senior Water Resources Engineer at BAWSCA.

### **Water: Bay and Ocean Water Quality**

Beach Report Card Scores are from Heal The Bay's 2012 Beach Report Card, accessed at: [www.healthebay.org/brc](http://www.healthebay.org/brc). Data on sanitary sewer overflows for 2012 were downloaded from the State Water Resources Control Board at [http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water\\_issues/programs/sso/](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/sso/).

### **Solid Waste**

Data on solid waste generated in California, San Mateo County and from each individual jurisdiction are from the California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle) Disposal Reporting System, accessed at: <http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/LGCentral/DRS/>.



# Acknowledgements

*Sustainable San Mateo County gratefully acknowledges the work of its founders, Board and Committee members, and the many volunteers who helped make this year's report.*

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Ruth Peterson

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Thea Carp, Bryan Chen, Gladwyn d'Souza, Flora Kaplan, Carol Mink, Frances Nuss, Joyce Routson, Katie Smith

## Mills High School Researchers

Advisor: Wayne Phillips  
William Chen, Esther Cheung, Valerie Fales, Alexis Dais Huang, Jennifer Kao, Rebecca Kim, Raymond Magsaysay, Nicholas Ueng, Mitchell Wong, Natalie Zhang

## San Jose State University GIS Team

Advisors: David McCormic, Rick Kos

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Fred Crowder, Swati Deshpande, Sapna Dixit, Julieta Fernandez, Joshua Hugg, Ruth Kavanagh, Krista Kuennhackl, Jeanie Kwong, Maria Mastragalanos, Nicole Sandkulla, Greg Smith, Kim Springer, Susan Wright

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Project Assistant: Cathy Schechter, Ecologic Institute  
Project Intern: Matthew Jones, Ecologic Institute  
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Editorial Assistance: Evelyn Kaplan, David Crabbe, Tom Rounds  
Design and Layout: Ricki McGlashan



Cover Design and Charts: Barbara Lee  
Kaleidoscope Graphic Design, 831.634.1234