



COUNTY OF SAN MATEO PROFILE

County Geography, History, Economics and Government

San Mateo County was established on April 19, 1856. Located between San Francisco and Santa Clara counties on the San Francisco Bay, the County covers 531 square miles and boasts 54-miles of spectacular coastline bluffs and beaches, with 74 percent of its land in agricultural use, watershed, open space, wetlands or parks. Mild climate, abundant natural resources, picturesque landscape of oak-tree dotted rolling green foothills, creeks and majestic stands of old redwoods best describes San Mateo County, making it one of the most attractive communities in California. Historically, as it is equally true today, generations have made a commitment to protect and preserve the County's natural resources.



History

In 1769, while searching for Monterey Bay, a Spanish exploration team led by Captain Gaspar de Portola instead found San Francisco Bay. The Spanish expedition found the peninsula inhabited by several small bands of Costano Indians. As a result of that contact, many Costanos soon contracted disease that eventually contributed to their extinction. During the 23-years of Mexican rule, numerous large land grants were secured from the Mexican Government. San Mateo County became the site of 17 large ranchos. By 1846, American troops had defeated Mexico and just two years later gold was discovered drawing the "forty-niners" in search of fortune. The territory's population grew and by 1850, Congress granted California statehood.



By 1860, the San Francisco peninsula had 3,214 residents. After the Southern Pacific peninsula line was completed the railroad brought something new to the Peninsula, the commuter. Many of the "Bonanza and Railroad Kings" purchased the old Mexican land grants. In fact, of the "Big Four" all but Collin Huntington made their home in San Mateo County. Leland Stanford, Charles Crocker and Mark Hopkins all constructed great mansions on estates.

Up until 1856, San Mateo was part of San Francisco County when the County was created out of a political deal. In an effort to eliminate city government corruption a state legislative proposal was introduced to merge the City and County of San Francisco. That legislation only won approval when an amendment was added to also require splitting San Francisco into a second county. In 1856, the County Charter was approved and a battle for the location of the county seat ensued. After three elections and a state Supreme Court decision, Redwood City became the San Mateo County seat.

Population

San Mateo County is the 13th largest county in California with a population of 712,400. Of this, approximately 63,500 live in the unincorporated area of the County. According to the most recent 2000 U.S. federal census data, San Mateo County is one of the most ethnically diverse communities in the nation: 49.8 percent of County residents are Caucasian, 21.8 percent are Hispanic, 21 percent Asian/Pacific Islander, 3.3 percent African American and 4.1 percent are other.



According to the California Department of Finance, the state's population exceeded 36 million persons on January 1, 2004 representing a 1.5 percent increase over the previous year while San Mateo County's population grew by .5 percent during the same period.

SAN MATEO CITY/COUNTY POPULATION

City	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Atherton	7,194	7,175	7,150	7,125	7,175
Belmont	25,123	25,100	25,000	25,100	25,100
Brisbane	3,597	3,600	3,620	3,600	3,640
Burlingame	28,158	28,200	28,100	27,900	27,950
Colma	1,187	1,190	1,190	1,180	1,280
Daly City	103,625	103,600	103,300	103,000	103,300
East Palo Alto	29,506	30,400	31,600	31,350	31,500
Foster City	28,803	28,750	28,600	29,450	29,450
Half Moon Bay	11,842	11,900	12,050	12,150	12,250
Hillsborough	10,825	10,850	10,850	10,850	10,850
Menlo Park	30,785	30,800	30,700	30,450	30,400
Millbrae	20,718	20,700	20,600	20,450	20,450
Pacifica	38,392	38,450	38,300	38,150	38,200
Portola Valley	4,462	4,450	4,460	4,440	4,480
Redwood City	75,402	75,300	75,500	75,100	75,100
San Bruno	40,165	40,100	39,900	40,450	41,250
San Carlos	27,718	27,700	27,600	27,450	27,650
San Mateo	92,482	92,400	93,000	92,600	93,100
South San Francisco	60,552	60,600	60,300	60,100	60,400
Woodside	5,352	5,350	5,325	5,300	5,400
Unincorporated	61,275	62,600	62,900	63,000	63,500
Total	707,163	709,100	709,900	709,200	712,400

*Source: California Department of Finance, Demographic Research Unit *Totals may not equal sum due to rounding*

The California Department of Finance projects that by the year 2020 San Mateo County will grow to 834,500 a 16.4 percent increase over current population estimates. The County's median age is 36.8 and has an aging population with the single largest age cohort of 65 and over at 14.5 percent.

Economy

Much like the gold rush, the Silicon Valley's information technology "bonanza" pushed San Mateo County's population to 730,000 in 2000. Information, bioscience and medical technology leading edge industries call San Mateo County home. They include Oracle Corporation, Siebel Systems, Electronic Arts, DreamWorks, Genentech, Nektar, Gilead, Cell Genesis, Applied Biosystems, and InterMune.

Industry and Employment

The largest industries in the County, in terms of percentage of employment in each respective industry, are as follows:

COUNTY OF SAN MATEO
ANNUAL AVERAGE EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY

Industry	Percentage of County Employed
Agriculture	0.3 %
Government	13.4 %
Services	49.4 %
Retail Trade	9.8 %
Mining & Construction	4.6 %
Manufacturing	5.1 %
Transportation & Public Utilities	4.9 %
Wholesale Trade	3.0 %
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	9.8 %

Source: State of California Employment Development Department 2002

Major Employers

The 20 largest employers in the County and their respective number of employees as of January 2002 are set forth in the following table:

COUNTY OF SAN MATEO
LARGEST EMPLOYERS

<u>Employer</u>	<u>Type of Business</u>	<u>Number of San Mateo County Employees</u>
United Airlines	Airline	13,300
Oracle Corporation	Software	8,000
County of San Mateo	Government	5,234
Genentech Inc.	Biotechnology	4,129
Siebel Systems	Software	1,926
Applied Biosystems	Biotechnology	1,762
United State Postal Service	Mail Services	1,637
Stanford Linear Accelerator	Research	1,450
San Francisco International Airport	Transportation	1,429
SRI International	Research/Consulting	1,200
Catholic Healthcare West	Health Care	1,154
Franklin Templeton	Investments	1,100
Visa USA/Visa International	Financial	900
Electronics For Imaging	Medical	900
Gap Inc.	Retail	870
Mervyns/Target Stores	Retail	750
SamTrans District	Transportation	741
Electronic Arts	Software	697
PG&E	Utilities	681
SBC Communication	Communications	576

Source: San Francisco Business Times 2004 Book of Lists

Income and Housing



The *median* family income is \$80,737; the *per capita* income in San Mateo County is \$57,906 -- one of the highest in California, while the *average* household income is \$129,000 -- making it one of the highest in the nation. Historically, San Mateo County has enjoyed a low unemployment rate. Hit hard by the 2001 tech wreck, the County saw its unemployment spike to 5.2 percent in 2002-03. The County lost about 10,000 jobs while the Bay Area Region as a whole lost nearly 325,000 during that same period.

COUNTY OF SAN MATEO
Per Capita Income
(in thousands of dollars)

1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
39,306	40,913	45,097	49,715	61,083	57,906

Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis

California, and specifically the Bay Area, consistently has among the highest housing costs in the nation. As of March 2004 the median home price in San Mateo County rose to \$729,000 from \$640,000 just a year ago. The median home cost requires an annual income of \$205,000, which puts home ownership out of reach for 85 percent of County residents. Moreover, the monthly rent for an average 2-bedroom unit is \$1,775 per month. The inability of families in San Mateo County to afford appropriate housing is the single greatest impediment in achieving self-sufficiency and continues to make affordable housing development a top County priority.

COUNTY OF SAN MATEO
MEDIAN HOME PRICE

	1985	1990	1995	2000	2004
San Mateo County	\$198,600	\$380,500	\$337,400	\$523,000	\$729,000
California	\$127,000	\$189,000	\$187,900	\$243,390	\$453,590

Source: California Association of Realtors

Commercial Activity

Commercial activity is an important contributor to San Mateo County's economy. The following table shows the County's taxable transactions from year 1997 to 2001:

COUNTY OF SAN MATEO
TAXABLE TRANSACTIONS BY TYPE OF BUSINESS
FOR CALENDAR YEARS 1997 THROUGH 2001
(in thousands of dollars)

Type of Business	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
Apparel Stores	\$281,475	\$299,827	\$310,526	\$349,256	\$327,455
General Merchandise	1,073,307	1,120,778	1,177,150	1,255,633	1,259,242
Specialty Stores	1,073,828	1,049,819	1,295,940	1,538,989	1,267,916
Food Stores	347,240	353,091	374,116	405,860	415,023
Packaged Liquor Stores	50,755	54,627	61,313	64,959	68,360
Eating/Drinking Places	772,148	808,464	886,670	980,888	982,152
Home Furnishing	347,749	388,867	439,933	486,075	439,347
Building Materials	547,692	601,021	700,538	813,509	873,013
Service Stations	564,835	499,582	604,221	801,639	739,561
Cars, Boats, Plane, Parts & Dealers	1,287,966	1,433,172	1,629,982	1,900,036	1,843,498
Total Retail Outlets	6,346,995	6,609,248	7,516,398	8,596,944	8,215,567
Business & Personal Services	488,513	549,468	556,940	616,464	591,870
All Other Outlets	3,898,308	3,876,287	4,056,713	4,830,608	4,052,152
Total /All Outlets	\$10,733,816	\$11,035,003	\$12,130,051	\$14,044,016	\$12,859,589

*Source: Taxable Sales in California, State Board of Equalization * most recent information*

Transportation

San Francisco International Airport



The San Francisco International Airport (SFO) is located in an unincorporated area of the County. According to the Airports Council International, SFO is the fifth busiest airport in the nation in terms of passenger volume and 13th busiest in cargo volume. The Airport Commission reports that air traffic in 2003 included 24.3 million passengers, a decrease of nearly 2.2 million passengers or 8.3 percent from the previous year. Seventy-four major passenger and commuter airlines fly from the Airport and approximately 34 of them serve international destinations.

In 2003, the Airport handled 481,396 metric tons of cargo and mail, a decrease of approximately 12,985 metric tons or 2.5 percent over the previous year. Although SFO is owned and operated by the City and County of San Francisco, it plays a very significant part in the economy of the County. Air transportation is the County's single largest industry. Over 23,000 people are employed at SFO by the airlines, cargo carriers, restaurants, aviation suppliers and other SFO-related business and support services. A new \$1 billion, 26-gate international terminal was opened in December of 2000 and construction of a ground transportation center, light rail and elevated circulation road at the Airport was recently completed.

An already sluggish airline industry was dealt a damaging blow by the events of September 11, 2001. In the aftermath of the terrorist attacks the nation's second largest airline, United Airlines was pushed into bankruptcy. United Airlines, the largest carrier at San Francisco International Airport representing half of all passengers and flights, with 16,000 Bay Area employees, was forced to eliminate thousands of jobs nation wide, resulting in hundreds of layoffs in San Mateo County.

**San Francisco International Airport
Passenger, Cargo Mail Data
Fiscal Years 1993 through 2003**

Fiscal Year	Passengers Enplanements and Deplanements	Freight and Express Air Cargo Enplaned and Deplaned (Metric Tons)	U.S. and Foreign Mail (Metric Tons)
1993	31,993,602	486,588	120,517
1994	33,814,456	508,970	130,916
1995	36,262,745	558,273	138,045
1996	37,799,907	555,771	141,637
1997	39,100,617	589,742	153,586
1998	37,799,907	621,538	165,336
1999	39,158,482	618,285	182,158
2000	40,242,096	680,191	190,586
2001	34,643,312	516,184	118,959
2002	31,456,342	501,201	88,529
2003	23,909,179	407,551	90,796

Source: San Francisco Airport Commission

The Port of Redwood City is also located in the County. The Port has a deep-water channel and handles bulk cargo including lumber and scrap metal. In fiscal year 2002-03, the Port handled a record 1,111,400 metric tons of cargo, 23.5 percent higher than the prior year of 900,000 tons.



The Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) District connects the County to downtown San Francisco and the East Bay. BART has stations in Daly City, Colma, South San Francisco, San Bruno, Millbrae and the San Francisco International Airport, at the new International Terminal. The system will serve approximately 70,000 new daily riders by 2010, eliminate 10,000 daily auto trips to SFO and provide congestion relief on one of the County's main transportation corridors. The project features an intermodal cross platform connection linking commuter rail, rapid rail and the County's bus system with the connecting track into the airport. Riders are able to buy passes that allow them to use conveniently any combination of transit system in the Bay Area.

County of San Mateo Government

Unique to just two counties in California, the San Mateo County Charter require each of the five members of the Board of Supervisors to be elected at-large by all voters of the County, but requires each supervisor to reside within one of five geographic supervisorial districts. Supervisors are elected to four-year terms and are limited to no more than three terms. The Board of Supervisors makes policy for county government activity, except for those functions reserved for other elected officials. The Board legislates and sets policy and administers county government by ordinances and regulations.

In addition to the five Board seats, there are six elected officials who are chosen by general election every four years. They are Assessor-County Clerk-Recorder, Controller, Coroner, District Attorney/Public Administrator, Sheriff and the Tax Collector-Treasurer. The Clerk of the Superior Court and the Chief Probation Officer are appointed by the Superior Court. All other department heads are appointed by and report directly to the County Manager, who is appointed by the Board of Supervisors.

Board of Supervisors

Mark Church, 1st District

Incorporated: San Mateo (west portion, adjacent to Hillsborough), Burlingame, Hillsborough, Millbrae, San Bruno, South San Francisco (east of El Camino Real) Unincorporated: Burlingame Hills, Highlands/Baywood Park, San Francisco Airport

Jerry Hill, 2nd District

Belmont, Foster City, San Mateo

Rich Gordon, 3rd District

Pacifica, Montara, Moss Beach, El Granada, Princeton, Half Moon Bay, Redwood Shores (community of Redwood City), Harbor Industrial, San Carlos, Woodside, Portola Valley, Atherton, Devonshire, Palomar Park, Emerald Lake Hills, Sequoia Tract, West Menlo Park, Stanford Lands, Ladera, Los Trancos Woods, La Honda, Skyline, Pescadero, Menlo Oaks

Rose Jacobs Gibson, 4th District

Incorporated: Redwood City, Menlo Park, East Palo Alto. Unincorporated: North Fair Oaks, Oak Knoll

Mike Nevin, 5th District

Incorporated: Brisbane, Colma, Daly City, South San Francisco (west of El Camino Real) Unincorporated: Broadmoor, Country Club Park



Elected Department Heads

Warren Slocum, Assessor-County Clerk-Recorder
Tom Huening, Controller
Robert Foucrault, Coroner
Jim Fox, District Attorney/Public Administrator
Don Horsley, Sheriff
Lee Buffington, Treasurer-Tax Collector

Visioning Project



In 2000, the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors asked the community to identify the strategic priorities for the future of the county. "What is the most important goal that San Mateo County should set for the year 2010?" The question was asked and answered at eight community forums conducted throughout the county. Through citizen participation 10 commitments and 25 goals are reflected in the County's *Shared Vision 2010*. In 2005, the Board of Supervisors will report on the progress made keeping the 10 commitments and achieving the 25 goals set in *Shared Vision 2010*. Additionally, the Board will once again conduct a public dialogue to prioritize the goals, as well as develop new strategies to realize the ambitious plan. These 10 commitments and 25 goals can be found on the reverse side of each section divider of this recommended budget.

2004 Priority County Projects

San Mateo Medical Center



Located in the heart of the County, the County operates one of just 23 remaining public hospitals in California. A ten-year long project, the County recently completed a ten-year, \$124 million reconstruction of the San Mateo Medical Center making the facility the only hospital in the County to meet seismic safety requirements. Last year, as part of the system of care, the County acquired the Burlingame Long Term Center, a 281-bed skilled nursing facility. It specializes in long-term care of frail elderly in the Medi-Cal and Medicare programs. Additional improvements to both health facilities are required to meet the changing health care demands of the County including a labor and delivery unit and Geriatric Assessment Center.

Youth Services Center

Despite the ongoing economic challenge, the Board of Supervisors recently approved a \$125 million Youth Services Center project to replace an inadequate 55-year old Hillcrest Juvenile Hall to serve the most at-risk and troubled youth in the County. The new campus will consist of a complex of buildings including a 180-bed Juvenile Hall, probation office, juvenile court, community school, a 30-bed girls camp and a 24-bed group home. In May 2002, the County was awarded a federal juvenile justice grant of \$21 million and recently received a \$635,000 appropriation toward the construction of the health facility included in the project. The balance of the project is funded with the sale of lease revenue bonds.



Housing Programs



In 2002, the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors allocated \$3 million to seed the Housing Endowment and Trust of San Mateo County (HEAT-SMC), a joint powers authority to coordinate financial resources of public and private sector entities interested in addressing the critical, regional need of affordable housing. HEAT was awarded \$2 million from the State Housing Bond.

Children's Health Initiative

Consistent with the national average, 1 in 5 County residents do not have health insurance or are underinsured. In 2003, steps were taken to address community-wide concern for the 17,000 County children who lacked access to comprehensive health insurance coverage. Called the *Children's Health Initiative*, this broad-based local coalition collaborated to provide easier access to two existing government funded insurance programs, Medi-Cal and Healthy Families, and developed and implemented a third new program, *Healthy Kids*. Beginning in FY 2002-03, the County has made annual appropriations of \$2.5 million for *Healthy Kids* to ensure that all children have health insurance and access to health care.

