



County of San Mateo

PROFILE 2008-2009

MISSION STATEMENT

San Mateo County government protects and enhances the health, safety, welfare, and natural resources of the community; and provides quality services that benefit and enrich the lives of the people of this community.

We are committed to:

- The highest standards of public service;
- A common vision of responsiveness;
- The highest standards of ethical conduct;
- Treating people with respect and dignity.

ABOUT SAN MATEO COUNTY

The County of San Mateo is home to some of the most spectacular and varied geography in the United States, from 54 miles of rugged coast to tidal marshes along the Bay. In between are redwood forests, rolling hills covered with oaks, wetlands, creeks, beaches and farmland all within the County's 741 square miles.

Established on April 19, 1856, San Mateo County has been a center of innovation since its early days and now is home to cutting-edge industries and a county government that is responsive and responsible.

There are 20 cities in San Mateo County, each with unique characteristics, and numerous unincorporated communities. These range from suburban neighborhoods to hamlets tucked away in the forest.

The County is represented in Washington, D.C. by two members of Congress and in Sacramento by three members of the Assembly and two members of the Senate.

The combination of mild climate, abundant open space and economic diversity and vitality make San Mateo County one of the most attractive places to live in the United States.

Residents have long committed to preserving the environment and nearly three-quarters of the County is set



Crystal Springs Reservoir

aside for parks, watershed protection, farmland and other open-space uses.

The County's proximity to leading research institutions such as Stanford University and the University of California along with numerous other colleges and universities has helped create a well-educated and engaged constituency. Home to San Francisco International Airport, the County is a gateway to the world.

HISTORY

In 1769, while searching for Monterey Bay, a Spanish exploration party led by Captain Gaspar de Portola instead found San Francisco Bay from what is now called Sweeney Ridge between San Bruno and Pacifica. The Spanish expedition found the Peninsula inhabited by several small tribes of Ohlone Indians. As a result, many Native Americans soon contracted diseases that contributed to great suffering. When Spanish rule of the region gave way to Mexican rule after 1821, numerous large land grants were secured from the Mexican Government. San Mateo County became the site of 17 large ranchos. In 1846, American Naval forces claimed California and just two years later gold was discovered drawing the "forty-niners" in search of fortune. California's population grew and by 1850, Congress granted it statehood.

San Mateo was part of San Francisco County until 1856,

when the County was created out of a political deal. In an effort to eliminate San Francisco 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 require splitting San Francisco into two counties. 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.

By 1860, San Mateo County had 3,214 residents. The San Francisco-San Jose railroad line brought something new to the Peninsula: the commuter.

Many of the “Bonanza and Railroad Kings” purchased portions of the old Mexican land grants and built great mansions on estates. The favorable climate, proximity to natural resources and an improving transportation network helped to fuel the County’s growth.

San Mateo County Government

Each of the five members of the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors is elected in a countywide vote. Each member must, however, live within one of the five geographic districts that are roughly equal in terms of population.



Old Courthouse

Supervisors are elected to four-year terms and can serve up to three terms in office. In addition to the supervisors, six other representatives are elected countywide every four years. They are the Assessor-County Clerk-Recorder, Controller, Coroner, District Attorney/Public Administrator, Sheriff and Treasurer-Tax Collector.

The Clerk of the Superior Court and Chief Probation Officer are appointed by the Superior Court.

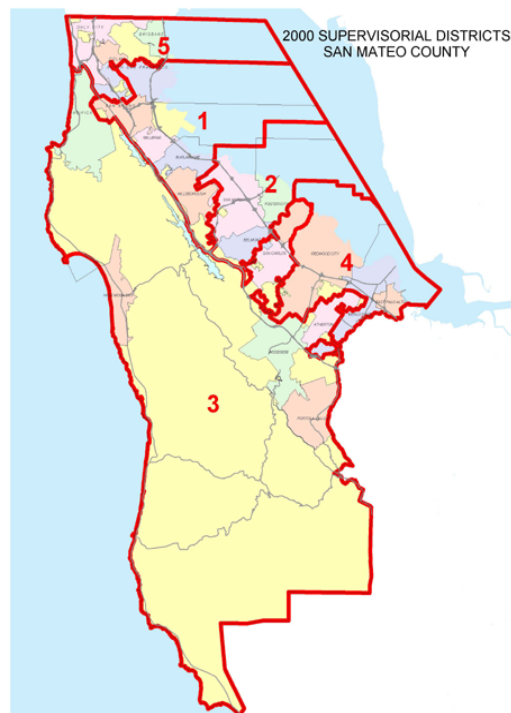
Supervisors appoint the County Manager who is tasked with carrying out the Board’s policies and goals. The County Manager selects the department heads.

Adrienne Tissier, 5th District

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

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



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

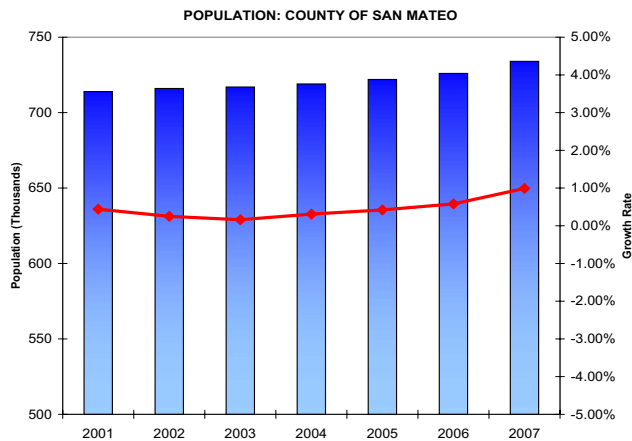
Rose Jacobs Gibson, 4th District

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

POPULATION

Between Jan. 1, 2006 and Jan. 1, 2007, San Mateo County's population grew one percent, from 726,336 to 733,496, maintaining San Mateo County's rank as the 14th most populous county in California.¹

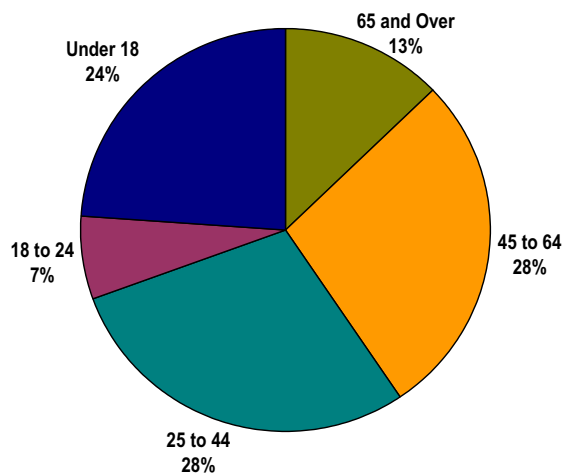
During that same period, California grew by 1.3 percent to 37.7 million residents. Of San Mateo County's 733,496 residents, about 65,557 live in the unincorporated area of the County.



Source: US Census and CA Department of Finance

The California Department of Finance projects that by the year 2010 San Mateo County's population will grow to 761,455 by 2020.² In 2005, the County's median age was 39.2 (36.4 for the Nation) and 13 percent of San Mateo County residents were age 65 or older.

AGE DISTRIBUTION OF SAN MATEO COUNTY POPULATION



Source: American Community Survey, 2005

1 State of California, Department of Finance, *E-1 Population Estimates for Cities, Counties and the State with Annual Percent Change — January 1, 2006 and 2007*. Sacramento, California, May 2007.

2 State of California, Department of Finance, *Population Projections for California and its Counties 2000-2050*, Sacramento, California, July 2007.

SAN MATEO CITY/COUNTY POPULATION ESTIMATES ³

City	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Atherton	7,206	7,250	7,252	7,284	7,423
Belmont	25,365	25,369	25,451	25,725	25,897
Brisbane	3,641	3,674	3,721	3,753	3,789
Burlingame	28,223	28,224	1,565	1,579	1,593
Colma	1,194	1,296	1,565	1,579	1,593
Daly City	104,179	104,375	104,594	105,156	106,160
East Palo Alto	31,672	31,853	32,170	32,183	32,630
Foster City	29,790	29,778	29,854	29,993	30,269
Half Moon Bay	12,273	12,375	12,679	12,775	12,912
Hillsborough	10,948	10,966	10,975	10,998	11,122
Menlo Park	30,760	30,708	30,624	30,842	31,146
Millbrae	20,688	20,682	20,692	20,797	20,965
Pacifica	38,561	38,593	38,650	38,859	39,251
Portola Valley	4,489	4,529	4,535	4,566	4,618
Redwood City	75,891	75,893	75,934	76,322	77,025
San Bruno	40,916	40,939	41,417	41,645	42,145
San Carlos	27,732	27,960	28,169	28,352	28,639
San Mateo	93,562	94,032	94,144	94,605	95,510
South San Francisco	60,787	61,030	61,617	62,017	62,614
Woodside	5,353	5,461	5,491	5,522	5,564
Unincorporated	63,713	64,167	64,367	64,955	65,557
COUNTY TOTAL	716,943	719,154	722,160	726,336	733,496

*Totals may not equal sum due to rounding

More than 34 percent of San Mateo County residents are foreign born, compared to 12.4 percent nationwide and 27.2 percent in California. Counties in California with higher foreign-born percentages include: Imperial, 34.7 percent; Los Angeles, 36 percent; San Francisco, 35.8 percent; and Santa Clara, 36.3 percent.⁴

SAN MATEO COUNTY RACE/ETHNIC POPULATION PROJECTIONS

	2000	2010	2020	2030
White	360,423	313,992	280,023	247,584
Hispanic	155,505	188,420	220,258	252,514
Asian	142,989	177,034	197,659	215,191
Pacific Islander	9,853	10,510	11,642	12,533
Black	24,288	26,848	30,463	33,807
American Indian	1,605	1,838	2,351	2,896
Multirace	16,638	18,025	19,059	21,544

Source: State of California, Department of Finance, *E-3 California County Race/Ethnic Population Estimates and Components of Change by Year, July 1, 2000-2004*. Sacramento, California, March 2006.

MAJOR EMPLOYERS

San Mateo County is home to a diverse array of businesses, from Fortune 500 companies to small businesses. The

3 State of California, Department of Finance, *E-4 Population Estimates for Cities, Counties and the State, 2001-2007, with 2000 Benchmark*. Sacramento, California, May 2007.

4 U.S. Census Bureau, 2005 American Community Survey, GCT0501. Percent of People Who Are Foreign Born: 2005.

largest employers are often international leaders and include airlines, biotechnology companies, computer information system designers, research and development firms and healthcare providers and researchers.

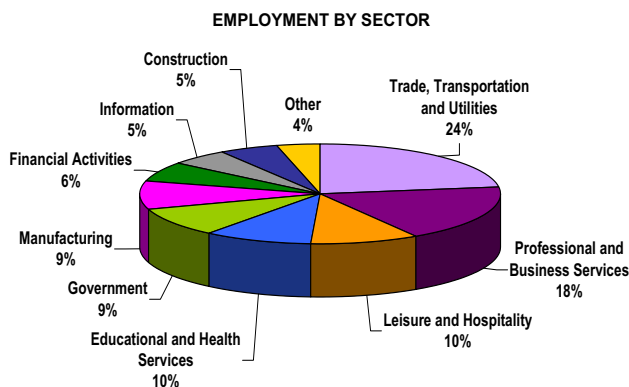
The largest employers in the County and their respective number of employees are shown in the chart.

MAJOR EMPLOYERS		
Employer	Number of Employees	% of Total Employment
United Airlines	9,600	2.73%
Genentech	7,845	2.23%
County of San Mateo	5,777	1.64%
Oracle	5,642	1.61%
Kaiser Permanente	3,609	1.03%
Safeway Inc.	2,280	0.65%
US Postal Service	2,174	0.62%
Electronic Arts	2,000	0.57%
Mills-Peninsula Health	1,800	0.51%
Applied Biosystems	1,578	0.45%
TOTAL	42,305	12.04%

Source: County of San Mateo Assessor's Office

TOP TAXPAYERS		
Assessee	Taxable Assessed Value (\$000)	% of Total Taxable Assessed Value
Genentech	\$1,989,793	1.62%
United Airlines	\$1,760,548	1.43%
Oracle	\$580,136	0.47%
Pacific Shores Investors	\$490,900	0.40%
Sun Microsystems	\$368,615	0.30%
Wells REIT University Circle	\$298,860	0.24%
Tyco Electronics	\$297,347	0.24%
Westport Office Park	\$244,494	0.20%
Slough BTC	\$225,687	0.18%
Octopus Holdings	\$224,177	0.18%
TOTAL	\$6,480,557	5.27%

Source: County of San Mateo Assessor's Office



Industry Innovators

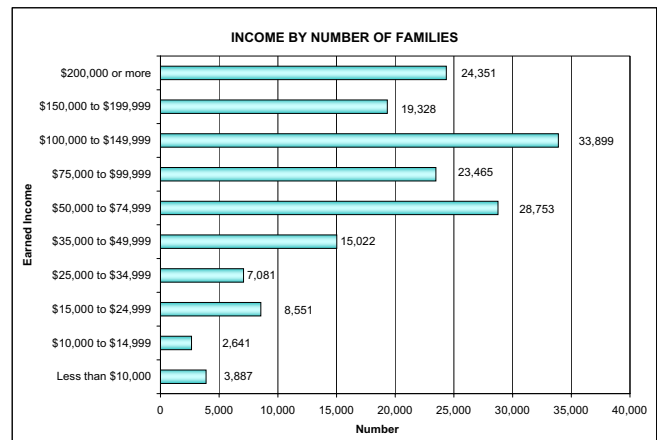
San Mateo County is home to innovative researchers in the pharmaceutical, medical science, computer and other leading-edge industries. Of the 25 Bay Area companies receiving the most number of U.S. patents in 2006, seven are located in San Mateo County.⁵

LARGEST PATENT RECIPIENTS IN SAN MATEO COUNTY			
Company	Number of Patents	Total number of employees company wide	Business description
Oracle Corporation	215	68,000	Software
Genentech Inc.	142	10,460	Human therapeutics
Applera Corp (Appliedbiosystems)	46	5,090	Life sciences
SRI International	44	1,400	Technical and scientific research
Openwave Systems Inc.	27	1,452	Software
Rigel Pharmaceuticals Inc.	25	6,300	Human therapeutics
Theravance Inc.	23	285	Human therapeutics

Source: San Francisco Business Journal, 2007

INCOME and HOUSING

San Mateo County's median family income in 2006 rose to \$92,721, a twelve percent increase from 2005's \$82,376.⁶ The County's unemployment rate stood at 4.2 percent in March 2008, the second lowest of all 58 counties. Unemployment statewide stood at 6.4 percent.⁷



Housing prices in San Mateo County remain among the highest in the United States. Despite a slowdown in sales, housing prices have remained steady: the median price of homes sold in December 2007 was \$733,500, a 0.2 percent decline from the \$735,000 median price of homes sold in December 2006.⁸

5 San Francisco Business Times, 2007 Book of Lists.

6 U.S. Census Bureau, 2005 American Community Survey.

7 Employment Development Department Labor Market Information Division, Monthly Labor Force Data for Counties, April 2008.

8 DataQuick Information Systems.

Bay Area Counties	Number of Homes Sold December 2006	Number of Homes Sold December 2007	Number of Homes Sold % Change	Median Price December 2006	Median Price December 2007	Median Price % Change
Bay Area	8,372	5,065	-39.5%	618,000	587,500	-4.9%
Alameda	1,589	963	-38.1%	589,000	540,000	-8.3%
Contra Costa	1,788	971	-45.7%	569,500	505,000	-11.3%
Santa Clara	2,106	1,265	-39.9%	656,000	655,000	-0.2%
San Mateo	685	468	-31.7%	735,000	733,500	-0.2%
San Francisco	589	445	-24.4%	745,000	731,000	-1.9%
Marin	268	193	-28.0%	804,750	760,500	-0.5%
Napa	127	72	-43.3%	590,000	590,000	0.0%
Solano	622	360	-42.1%	439,500	370,000	-15.8%
Sonoma	298	308	-48.5%	525,000	410,000	-21.9%

Source: DataQuick Information Systems

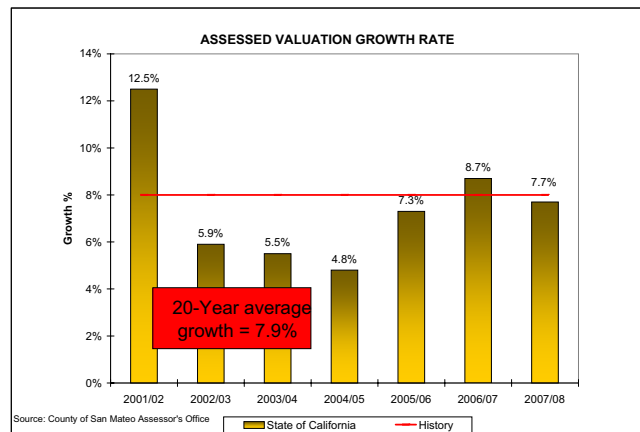


The County had one of the lowest rates of default in the state in the fourth quarter of 2007. However, the number of defaults increased 84 percent over the prior year, from 339 in the fourth quarter of 2006, to 625 in the fourth quarter of 2007.⁹

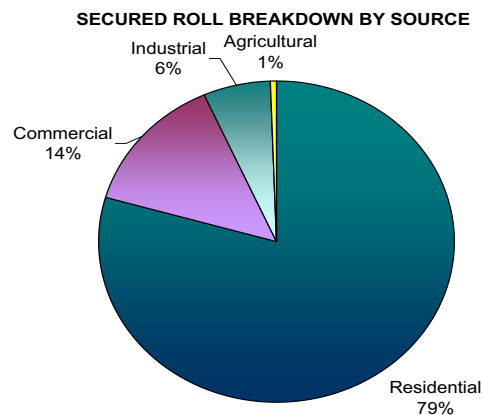
Monthly rents at the end of 2007 were also among the highest in the nation: \$1,490 for a one-bedroom, one-bath; \$1,703 for a two-bedroom, two-bath; and \$2,063 for a two-bedroom, two-bath.¹⁰ Creating affordable housing is among the County's top priorities.

Notices of Default	4th Quarter 2006	4th Quarter 2007	% Change
California	37994	81550	114.6%
SF Bay Area	5362	12704	136.9%
Sacramento	2635	5807	120.4%
Santa Clara	874	2162	147.4%
Monterey Region	291	1048	260.1%
Alameda County	1173	2573	119.4%
Contra Costa County	1511	3805	151.8%
San Francisco	173	334	93.1%
Marin County	101	224	121.8%
San Mateo	339	625	84.4%
San Joaquin County	1293	3746	189.7%
Stanislaus County	909	2594	185.4%

Source: DataQuick Information Systems



Source: County of San Mateo Assessor's Office



Source: County of San Mateo Assessor's Office

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Source: DataQuick Information Systems

9 DataQuick Information Systems

10 San Mateo County Department of Housing

TRANSPORTATION

The free flow of people, goods and services is vital to a diverse economy and vibrant culture. Home to San Francisco International Airport, San Mateo County is a gateway to the world and a leading destination for business travelers and tourists. The County is also home to a deepwater port, commuter rail lines and bus service. The region's roadways vary from busy freeways linking the County with San Francisco and Silicon Valley to scenic country lanes.

San Francisco International Airport



Located along San Francisco Bay, SFO is one of the largest airports in the United States with 35.3 million passengers in calendar year 2007, an increase of 6.7 percent from 2006. Flight operations in 2007 rose 5.7 percent, to 379,500, from 2006. The increases reflect a rebound from the early part of the decade when the total number of passengers and flight operations fell sharply.¹¹

SFO is one of the leading gateways to the Pacific Rim and the rest of the world with a 2.5 million square-foot international terminal. Other work completed in the past few years includes a BART station, the AirTrain automated people mover, expanded cargo facilities and roadway improvements.

As Northern California's largest airport, SFO offers flights on 25 international carriers and non-stop flights to more than 60 cities in the United States on 20 domestic airlines.

SAN FRANCISCO INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT COMPARATIVE TRAFFIC REPORTS

Fiscal Year	Total Enplaned and Deplaned Passengers
1998	39,326,635
1999	39,515,808
2000	40,287,832
2001	33,955,220
2002	30,741,660
2003	28,786,385
2004	32,156,828
2005	32,802,363
2006	33,077,923
2007	35,317,241

Source: City & County of San Francisco, San Francisco International Airport, Comparative Traffic Reports, 1998-07

The airport is owned and operated by the City and County of San Francisco and plays a major role in the region's economy. In 2007, several airlines expanded or launched service included Virgin America, JetBlue and Aer Lingus. The airlines, airport, shipping firms, restaurants and related companies employ thousands of people in jobs directly and indirectly tied to aviation.

Port of Redwood City

The only deepwater port in the southern part of San Francisco Bay, the Port of Redwood City provides shipping berths and recreational opportunities for the Peninsula. Construction materials such as gypsum, cement and aggregates used to build roads along with liquid bulk cargo and scrap metal all move through the port. The port in the 2007 fiscal year marked its fourth highest volume total in modern history at more than 1.4 million metric tons.

Despite the high volume, business was down 21.6 percent from the prior year, primarily due to a drop in the construction industry.¹² The 2007 fiscal year, which ended June 30, saw 140 ships and barges call upon the port. The port is a department of the City of Redwood City.

BART, Caltrain, SamTrans



Improving transportation options remains a high priority for residents, business groups, the County and transit operators.

Caltrain set a record in February 2008: an average weekday ridership of 36,993.

A count of every customer who boarded and departed trains at its 31 stations showed that average weekday ridership increased 9.3 percent compared to February

11 San Francisco International Airport Comparative Traffic Report, December 2007.

12 Port of Redwood City news release.

2007. Average weekday ridership has shot up 44.8 percent since Caltrain introduced its Baby Bullet express service in 2004 and reconfigured its schedule in 2005.

The Bay Area Rapid Transit District (BART) has six stations within San Mateo County, including the extension to SFO that opened in June 2003. BART has struggled to achieve ridership numbers in line with projections but ridership on the Peninsula is rising, from 20,354 average weekday exits in 2004 from the stations in Daly City, Colma, South San Francisco, San Bruno, SFO and Millbrae to 23,865 in 2007.¹³

AVERAGE WEEKDAY RIDERSHIP FOR BART, CALTRAIN, AND SAMTRANS						
	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
BART	14,252	14,177	20,354	21,593	22,730	23,865
Caltrain	30,961	27,191	25,550	28,393	32,031	33,841
SamTrans	56,589	52,927	48,073	46,797	46,845	48,750

Source-BART: BART Fiscal Year Weekday Average Exits from Daly City, Colma, South San Francisco, San Bruno, SFO, and Millbrae stations.

Source-Caltrain: Caltrain average number of weekday boardings based on annual February ridership survey.

Source-SamTrans: SamTrans Fiscal Year ridership report

SamTrans, the County's bus service, also plays a key role in helping people on the move. Average weekday ridership was 48,750 in November 2007. The San Mateo County Transit District operates SamTrans. Caltrain is owned and operated by the Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board consisting of San Mateo and Santa Clara counties and the City and County of San Francisco.

SCHOOLS and YOUTH

San Mateo County's technology, biotechnology and health care industry leaders require a well-educated and trained workforce. There were 88,479 students enrolled in San Mateo County public schools in the 2006-07 school year.¹⁴

There were 5,663 certified public school staff members: 4,787 teachers; 404 administrators; and 472 pupil service staff.



SAN MATEO COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS	
Number of Students	
K - 8	60,972
9 - 12	27,378
Total	88,350
Certified Staff	
Teachers	4,773
Administrators	415
Pupil services staff	493
Total	5,681
K - 12 Districts	
Elementary	17
High School	3
Unified	3
County Office of Education	1
Total	24
K - 12 Districts	
Elementary schools	110
Middle schools	30
High schools	27
Continuation high schools	6
K - 12 schools	0
County Office of Education Programs	2
Charter schools	14
Total	169
Higher Education Facilities	
Adult Education	5
Community College District	1
Community Colleges	3
Total	9

Source: San Mateo County Office of Education

Enrollment in San Mateo County peaked at about 125,000 during the Baby Boom years and has fallen to as low as 75,000, according to the San Mateo County Office of Education. Enrollment has been stable for the past four years. The County also has numerous private schools.

Compared to the rest of California, San Mateo County is relatively wealthy. However, nearly a third, or 31.7 percent of public school students, participated in the National School Lunch Program in the 2006-07 school year.¹⁵

San Mateo County's graduation rate stood at 92.4 in 2005-06 compared to 83.2 for California and the drop out rate in the same year was 1.3 percent compared to 3.5 percent for California.¹⁶

San Mateo County is more highly educated than California as a whole. Forty-four percent of adults over age 25 have a bachelor's or an advanced degree compared to 29 percent for all of California.¹⁷

13 BART Fiscal Year Weekday Average Exits Report

14 San Mateo County Office of Education

15 San Mateo County Office of Education/California Department of Education/DataQuest

16 San Mateo County Office of Education

17 San Mateo County Office of Education/U.S. Census Bureau, 2006 A American Community Survey

County of San Mateo Initiatives

Year in Review

Shared Vision 2025

In 2001, the Board of Supervisors presented **Shared Vision 2010**, a report on the values and vision of the people of San Mateo County. The report, developed after numerous community forums, set 10 commitments and 25 measurable goals for the coming decade.



The Board in 2007 set to revisit Shared Vision 2010 to learn how the community vision has evolved. During the latter part of 2007 and early 2008 County staff

and a community steering committee hosted numerous public forums and developed an on-line survey that asked participants the question:

What is the most important goal that San Mateo County should set for the year 2025?

More than 1,000 people provided their answer. The most well-attended forum drew about 100 school students and was co-sponsored by the Youth Commission. Two forums were also held in Spanish.

A report on Shared Vision 2025 will be presented to the Board of Supervisors in summer 2008.

Youth Commission Earns National Recognition



San Mateo County's Youth Commission in April received a high honor: A 2008 Acts of Caring Award from the National Association of Counties. The Commission received the Youth Service Award, which recognizes the program that best identifies and addresses a critical need in the youth community by engaging young people in service.

The Board of Supervisors in 1993 created the Youth Commission, which consists of representatives from high schools and local colleges. The Commission advises the Board and County departments, supports projects serving youth and encourages inter-generational community service projects.

Several members of the Commission traveled to Washington, D.C., to receive the award on behalf of the entire Commission.

Working to Improve Patient Safety



San Mateo Medical Center now utilizes barcode scanners to help ensure the right patient receives the right medication in the Medical Center's latest innovation to improve patient safety.

Nurses use these barcode scanners to match a patient's wristband with bar-coded medication packages at the patient's bedside. The computer technology acts as a safety check for the patient and medical professional and is being installed at leading-edge hospitals across the country.

San Mateo Medical Center Pain Management Clinic

Prior to initiation of the Pain Management Clinic (PMC), patients with chronic pain often used primary care, specialty and emergency department visits at high levels, yet were not achieving optimal relief. Their high and often uncoordinated utilization of services indicated that this might be an area where we could provide better health outcomes at lower cost to the system.



The PMC program was designed to provide better, more comprehensive care for patients with chronic pain. From September 2006 to August 2007, the PMC served 249 patients with 1,234 total encounters. Patients reported significant improvement in their pain

intensity and psychiatric symptoms. Patients also reported high levels of satisfaction, and rated very highly their willingness to recommend this type of treatment to someone else with a pain problem.

New Women's Jail Needed



Replacing San Mateo County's outdated Women's Correctional Center with a new facility that would accommodate counseling, educational and treatment programs that have been proven to improve the lives of incarcerated women is a high priority. Throughout 2007 and early 2008 representatives from the Board of Supervisors, Superior Court, Sheriff's

Health Department, Probation Department and others have worked closely together to consider options and plan for new facilities.

Children's Outdoor Bill of Rights

San Mateo County was the first county in the state, following the Governor's proclamation, to adopt the California Children's Outdoor Bill of Rights in July 2007.



The Children's Outdoor Bill of Rights encourages the participation of children in 10 beneficial outdoor activities: discover California's past, splash in

the water, play in a safe place, camp under the stars, explore nature, learn to swim, play on a team, follow a trail, catch a fish, and celebrate their heritage.

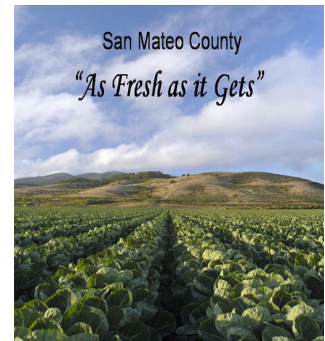
Numerous studies have shown that children who participate in outdoor recreational activities are healthier, do better in school, have better social skills and self-image, lead more fulfilled lives, strengthen family relationships and learn to be stewards of nature.

As Fresh As It Gets

San Mateo County has partnered with the Farm Bureau and Convention and Visitors Bureau to help local farmers and fishermen who are struggling to compete with imported products. County funding for the "San Mateo County: As Fresh As It Gets" public relations and marketing program will help promote locally harvested fruits and vegetables, floral products and seafood. The program completed a study in 2008 that identified the specific health benefits of the various fruits, vegetables and seafood grown and

harvested in San Mateo County. A comprehensive "Directory of Local Products and Associated Health Benefits" has been created. It lists key nutritional ingredients, the specific health benefits of each product and references and information sources. Other

strategies include farm tours for schools, magazine advertisements, and seasonal media events showcasing specific San Mateo County products, farm families and fishermen.



2008 Community Assessment Health & Quality of Life in San Mateo County



Sponsored by The Healthy Community Collaborative of San Mateo County, the 2008 Community Assessment found that, for a majority of County residents, our community is viewed as a wonderful place to

live, work, raise a family and lead a healthy life. However, the report shows that there are certain segments of the population that do not experience good health and a high quality of life.

Key findings:

- San Mateo County is among the most culturally and ethnically diverse counties.
- There are two San Mateo Counties: one for the economic "haves" and one for the economic "have nots." The gap between the two is growing.
- Quality health care services in the county are, for the most part, not a problem. Access and affordability are a significant problem.
- The actual causes of premature death are rooted in behavior, and it is estimated that as many as 50 percent of premature deaths are due to health risk behaviors such as tobacco use, poor diet, a lack of exercise and alcohol use, among others.
- With the assessment, it is hoped the community can build on its strengths and focus its ongoing efforts on the key health problems experienced by people living here.

Access San Mateo County



In March 2008, the County launched a web-based application that provides an easy way for the public

to send questions, complaints and compliments directly to the responsible County staff person based on the selection of topics and sub topics. To use **Access San Mateo County**, there are just three easy steps: choose a topic and sub-topic that matches the subject of your concern; write and submit your request; create an account so we can get back to you. Once you have created your account, you can track the status of your request and view any responses online, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. This initial launch included the County departments of Housing, Planning and Building and Public Works. Additional County departments will be added in the near future.

Aging Model Focuses on San Mateo County

The aging of the Baby Boomer population is fast becoming a priority concern for San Mateo County. Baby Boomers are people born between 1946 and 1964, and are considered to be the largest generational cohort in recent history. Although projection figures exist, none have taken into account the uniqueness of San Mateo County, nor provide the level of detail necessary to inform local planning and policy decisions. Service needs in the areas of health, housing and transportation are expected to change along with this demographic shift. The Board of Supervisors adopted the model in October 2007. It is hoped that this rich, new local data source will help inform the strategic planning of City and County Departments, as well as our community partners.

Creating and Preparing a Competitive Global Workforce



In March 2008, the County partnered with a number of local agencies and corporations to host a forum on how San Mateo County can continue to attract leading-edge industries and prepare children for a competitive global economy. Guest speakers included Sean Randolph, president/CEO of the

Bay Area Council Economic Institute, and Paul Saffo of the Institute for the Future. More than 100 members of the community developed strategies such as increasing funding for public education, increasing the amount of affordable housing and transportation alternatives to relieve the financial burdens on working families and educators and improving partnerships and collaboration between different sectors of government.

San Mateo – A Cool County



In October 2007, the Board of Supervisors committed San Mateo County to combat global warming and reduce greenhouse gas emissions by adopting the U.S. Cool Counties Initiative, a joint effort between county governments and the Sierra Club. The initiative aims to combat global warming by both raising actions that individuals and local governments can take to reduce emissions. Supervisors pledged to work closely with local, state and federal governments and other leaders to achieve the goal of reducing County greenhouse gas emissions 80 percent by 2050. Supervisors also set a goal to cap the County's global warming emissions by 2010 and then reduce emissions 10 percent every five years through 2050 — an average annual reduction of 2 percent.

Pharmaceutical Disposal Program



The California State Association of Counties awarded honorable mention to San Mateo County's Pharmaceutical Disposal Program in its 2007 Challenge Awards. The program is an environmentally friendly alternative to flushing medicines and was created to find an appropriate way to dispose of medicines in a way that does not harm wildlife. Other benefits include preventing medications from falling into the hands of anyone who might misuse them. This program is convenient to the public with minimal costs and fulfills all federal requirements concerning this issue. Pharmaceutical disposal receptacles were placed at police departments and at the Sheriff's Office, where anyone can place unwanted medicines in the bins. The US Environmental Protection Agency has praised the program for its efficiency, simplicity and apparent uniqueness on a national level.

Watershed Protection Community Outreach



In December 2007, the Board of Supervisors directed staff to develop and implement an outreach process that would educate the public about watersheds with the general goal of developing possible recommendations for action. A key element of the outreach process is holding workshops around the County to hear from the public. Public meetings

have been held in La Honda, Moss Beach, Pescadero, Ladera, Half Moon Bay, Redwood City and Menlo Park, and comments are being gathered via an interactive Web site. Staff expects to present recommendations to the Board of Supervisors in late 2008.

County Exhibit Wins Gold at State Fair



San Mateo County received a gold medal at the 2007 California State Fair for an exhibit that highlighted the County's scenic beauty and leading efforts to reduce energy consumption. This was the first time San Mateo County

won a gold medal in the Fair's Counties Exhibits competition. Participants and community partners included the County of San Mateo, Farm Bureau, Convention and Visitors Bureau, San Mateo County Parks and Recreation Foundation, California State Parks, Big Creek Lumber, Solar City, Marin Day Schools/Bright Horizons and several amateur and professional photographers.

Domestic Violence Conference: Improving Outreach in Our Diverse Community



Domestic violence is a serious issue that crosses all social, economic and racial boundaries. But in far too many cases, victims of domestic violence do not

report the crime and instead suffer in painful silence. This silence is particularly prevalent in minority communities. Battered women may face communication or cultural barriers and have less access to legal and social services. In some cases, their abusers may use immigration status as a tool of control. More than 300 people came together at the San Mateo County Domestic Violence Conference in November 2007 to explore ways to reach out to minority women and to hear from experts in the field. Conference attendees brainstormed ways to reach underserved communities and vowed to work together to implement new strategies. Participants included the County of San Mateo, Community Overcoming Relationship Abuse (CORA), San Mateo County Health Foundation, Mills-Peninsula Health Services, San Mateo County Police Chiefs and Sheriff Association, Soroptimist International and the San Mateo County Bar Association.

Get Ready San Mateo County



In an effort to heighten awareness about the need to prepare for emergencies, the video "Get Ready San Mateo County" premiered

in April 2008. The video is a production of the Sheriff's Office of Emergency Services and is intended to alert the public of the need to develop a safety plan and to store food, water, necessary medicine and other supplies in the event of an earthquake or other major emergency.

A Home for Emancipated Foster Youth



Once foster youth turn 18, many end up homeless and with little guidance or structure in their lives. To help foster youth fulfill their goals and learn how to live on their own, San Mateo County, in partnership with South San Francisco, bought a small apartment house that will provide a stable home as former foster youth go to school or work. To aid the newly independent adults, San Mateo County will provide rent support and a resident adviser who will teach life skills such as managing a bank account, finding employment and enrolling in college.

Health System Redesign Initiative

The Board of Supervisors in March 2008 approved the first year of a two-year plan that seeks to design and implement a new, sustainable and creative approach to healthcare delivery that incorporates key recommendations from an assessment of the County's role in healthcare delivery and the recommendations of the Blue Ribbon Task Force on Adult Health Care Coverage Expansion.

The Board of Supervisors in 2006 convened the Blue Ribbon Task Force on Adult Health Care Coverage Expansion to explore options for coverage expansion for low-income adults. Approval of the Task Force's preliminary recommendations in 2007 put San Mateo County on the forefront of the nationwide debate over how to improve the plight of the uninsured without breaking the banks of local government.

The assessment of the County's role in healthcare delivery complements the work of the Blue Ribbon Task Force by focusing on the ways health care is delivered in San Mateo County, especially to vulnerable populations and approaches that the County must take to sustain a viable healthcare safety net.

To achieve a more effective and efficient health care delivery system, the Board directed staff to implement the first year of a two-year plan that focuses on several priority areas, including eligibility and administration, chronic disease management and care coordination, integration across levels of care, and the development of a "Community Health Network for the Underserved" in partnership with private healthcare delivery organizations. The County, in partnership with the Health Plan of San Mateo and Ravenswood Family Health Center, also launched ACE ("Access and Care for Everyone") as a pilot of the Blue Ribbon Task Force aimed at improving access, care coordination and health for low-income, uninsured adults in our community. This pilot is financed through a federal/state grant awarded to 10 counties in California.

The Health Department's Open Access East Palo Alto Project received the STARS Customer Service Award. The Sheriff's Gang Intelligence and Investigation Unit received the Program Performance Award.

Budget Receives High Marks



For the fourth year in a row, San Mateo County has been honored with the Government Finance Officers Association's Distinguished Budget

Presentation Award. The Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) is a non-profit professional association serving 14,000 government finance professionals throughout North America. The GFOA's Distinguished Budget Presentation Awards Program is the only national awards program in governmental budgeting.

STARS Awards



The Board of Supervisors in December 2007 honored two programs that demonstrate the highest levels of public service with STARS Awards: Open Access East Palo Alto, a project that increases mental health services, and

the Sheriff's Gang Intelligence and Investigative Unit, which is credited with reducing gang-related violence.

The STARS Awards grew out of the desire by the Board of Supervisors to spur County departments to always strive to improve. The STARS Awards take the County's commitment to Outcome-Based Management - a system to align all County programs and spending with long-term goals - to an ever- higher level by providing incentives for departments to improve efficiency and effectiveness.

OUR COUNTY

