

Solano County Statistical Profile

The County of Solano is strategically located between San Francisco and Sacramento, on Interstate 80. As one of California's original 27 counties, it is rich in history and offers many resources to the general public and the business community. In addition to the unincorporated area, the County serves seven cities: Benicia, Dixon, Fairfield, Rio Vista, Suisun City, Vacaville and Vallejo.

The County provides the following services:

- Libraries (as Contract Services for Cities)
- Jails and Juvenile Facilities
- Probationary Supervision
- District Attorney
- Public Defender and Alternative Defense
- Grand Jury
- Coroner and Forensic Services
- Airport
- Family Support Collection
- Public and Mental Health Services
- Indigent Medical Services
- Child Protection and Social Services
- Public Assistance
- Environmental Health
- Parks
- Veterans Services
- Agricultural Commissioner
- Weights and Measures
- U.C. Cooperative Extension Services
- Oversight and Permitting of Landfills and Solid Waste Disposal and Collection
- Elections and Voter Registration
- Clerk-Recorder
- Tax Assessment and Collection
- Emergency Medical Services
- Animal Care Services
- Building and Safety (Unincorporated County only)
- Maintenance of County Roads and Bridges
- Law Enforcement (Primarily Unincorporated County)
- Land Use Issues in the Unincorporated County

The following pages provide a graphical summary of statistical, employment and demographic information about Solano County. In some cases comparative data is on a statewide basis and in other cases comparative data is narrowed down to the ten counties most similar to Solano County (selection is based on population and several other common aspects that compare to Solano County).

California Counties Ranked by Population

The California Department of Finance's January 1, 2009, estimate of the population of Solano County is 426,729, approximately the same as last year's estimate and 8.2% over the 2000 Census. Of California's 58 counties, Solano County ranks 21st in terms of population size and 36th in terms of population growth when compared to the 2000 Census.

California's population is estimated to top 38 million as of January 2009, according to the State Department of Finance. California, the nation's most populous state, represents 12.5% of the nation's population, or one out of every eight persons.

Solano County population represents 1.1% of the State population.

Rank	County	2000 Census	January 2009	Percent Change
1	Placer	248,399	339,577	36.7%
2	Riverside	1,545,387	2,107,653	36.4%
3	Imperial	142,361	179,254	25.9%
4	Kern	661,645	827,173	25.0%
5	Madera	123,019	152,331	23.8%
6	San Joaquin	563,598	689,480	22.3%
7	Sutter	78,930	96,554	22.3%
8	Merced	210,554	256,450	21.8%
9	Colusa	18,084	21,997	21.6%
10	Yuba	60,219	72,900	21.1%
11	San Bernardino	1,709,434	2,060,950	20.6%
12	Tulare	368,021	441,481	20.0%
13	Kings	129,461	154,743	19.5%
14	Yolo	168,660	200,709	19.0%
15	Fresno	799,407	942,298	17.9%
16	Stanislaus	446,997	526,383	17.8%
17	Sacramento	1,223,499	1,433,187	17.1%
18	El Dorado	156,299	180,185	15.3%
19	Calaveras	40,554	45,987	13.4%
20	San Diego	2,813,833	3,173,407	12.8%
21	Tehama	56,039	62,836	12.1%
22	Shasta	163,256	183,023	12.1%
23	Contra Costa	948,816	1,060,435	11.8%
24	Ventura	753,197	836,080	11.0%
25	Napa	124,279	137,571	10.7%
26	Glenn	26,453	29,239	10.5%
27	Santa Clara	1,682,585	1,857,621	10.4%
28	Orange	2,846,289	3,139,017	10.3%
29	Lake	58,309	64,025	9.8%

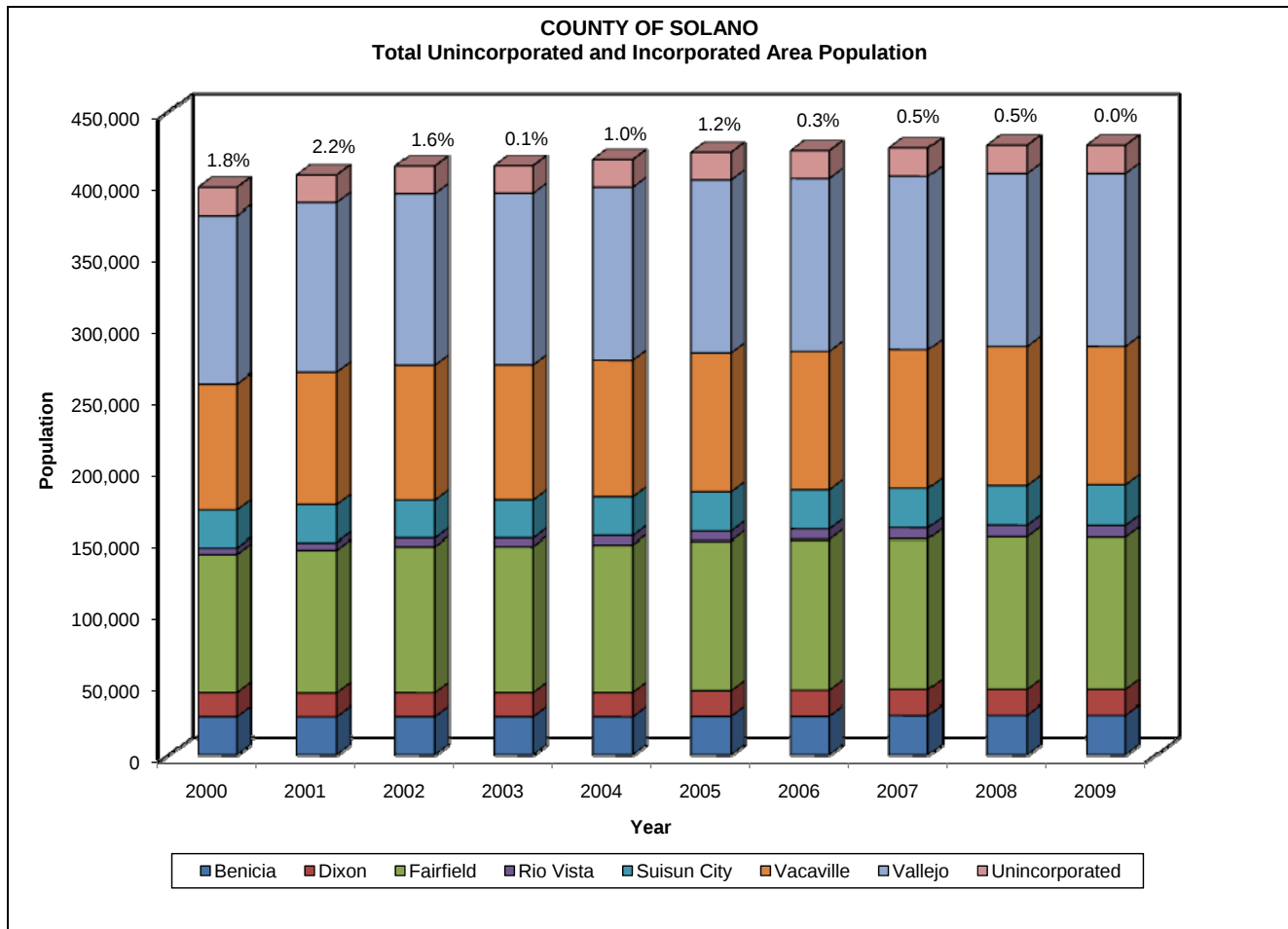
Rank	County	2000 Census	January 2009	Percent Change
30	San Luis Obispo	246,681	270,429	9.6%
31	Los Angeles	9,519,338	10,393,185	9.2%
32	San Benito	53,234	58,016	9.0%
33	San Francisco	776,733	845,559	8.9%
34	Butte	203,171	220,748	8.7%
35	Amador	35,100	38,080	8.5%
36	Solano	394,542	426,729	8.2%
37	Santa Barbara	399,347	431,312	8.0%
38	Alameda	1,443,741	1,556,657	7.8%
39	Monterey	401,762	431,892	7.5%
40	Del Norte	27,507	29,547	7.4%
41	Nevada	92,033	98,718	7.3%
42	Trinity	13,022	13,959	7.2%
43	Mariposa	17,130	18,306	6.9%
44	Sonoma	458,614	486,630	6.1%
45	San Mateo	707,161	745,858	5.5%
46	Santa Cruz	255,602	268,637	5.1%
47	Lassen	33,828	35,550	5.1%
48	Mono	12,853	13,504	5.1%
49	Humboldt	126,518	132,755	4.9%
50	Marin	247,289	258,618	4.6%
51	Mendocino	86,265	90,206	4.6%
52	Siskiyou	44,301	45,973	3.8%
53	Tuolumne	54,501	56,335	3.4%
54	Modoc	9,449	9,698	2.6%
55	Inyo	17,945	18,049	0.6%
56	Alpine	1,208	1,201	-0.6%
57	Plumas	20,824	20,632	-0.9%
58	Sierra	3,555	3,358	-5.5%
State		33,870,838	38,292,687	13.1%

Source: California Department of Finance, Demographic Research Unit

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When you look at the County population over a 10-year period beginning in 2000, the steady, constant growth is apparent. The County population has increased 8.29% since 2000, an average of approximately 1% annually.

The two largest cities within the county are Vallejo and Fairfield with populations of 121,055 and 106,440 respectively. The fastest growing Solano County city over the last ten years is Rio Vista with 79.1% growth, followed by Fairfield with 9.7%.



Source: California Department of Finance, Demographic Research Unit

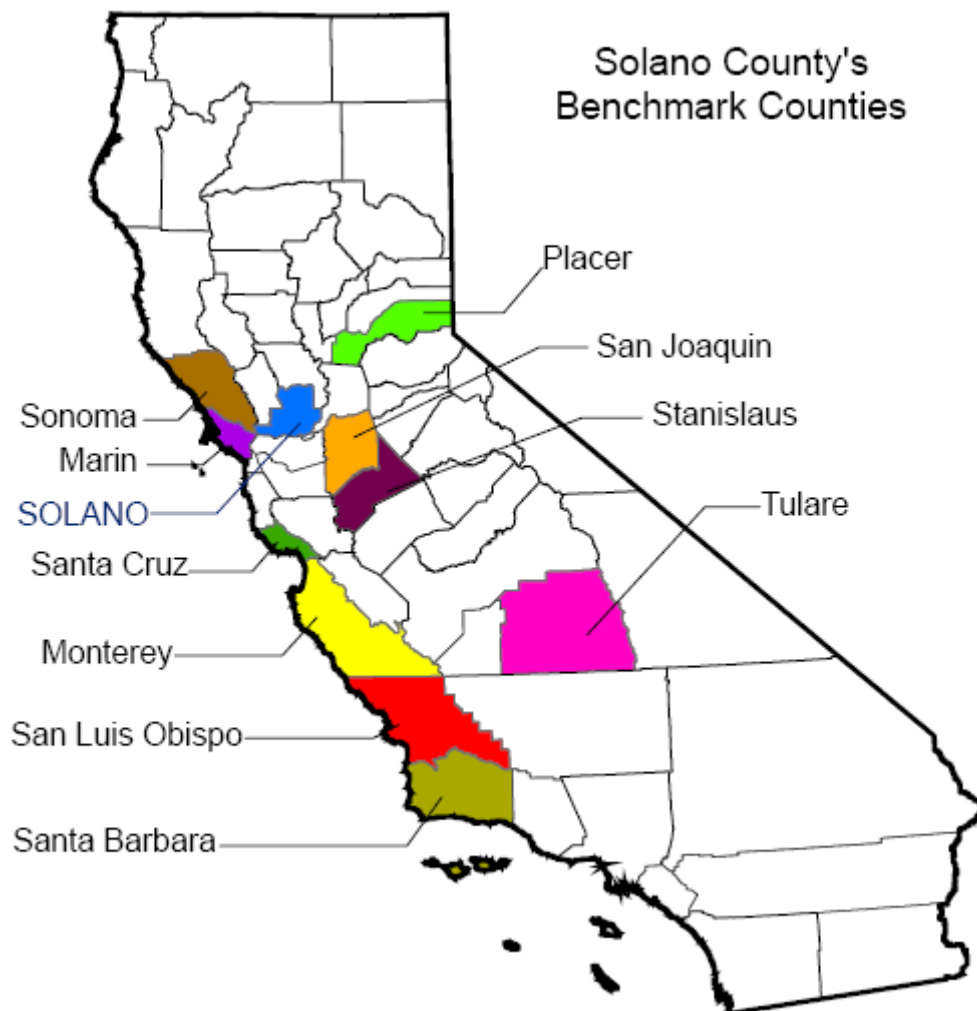
Benchmark Counties

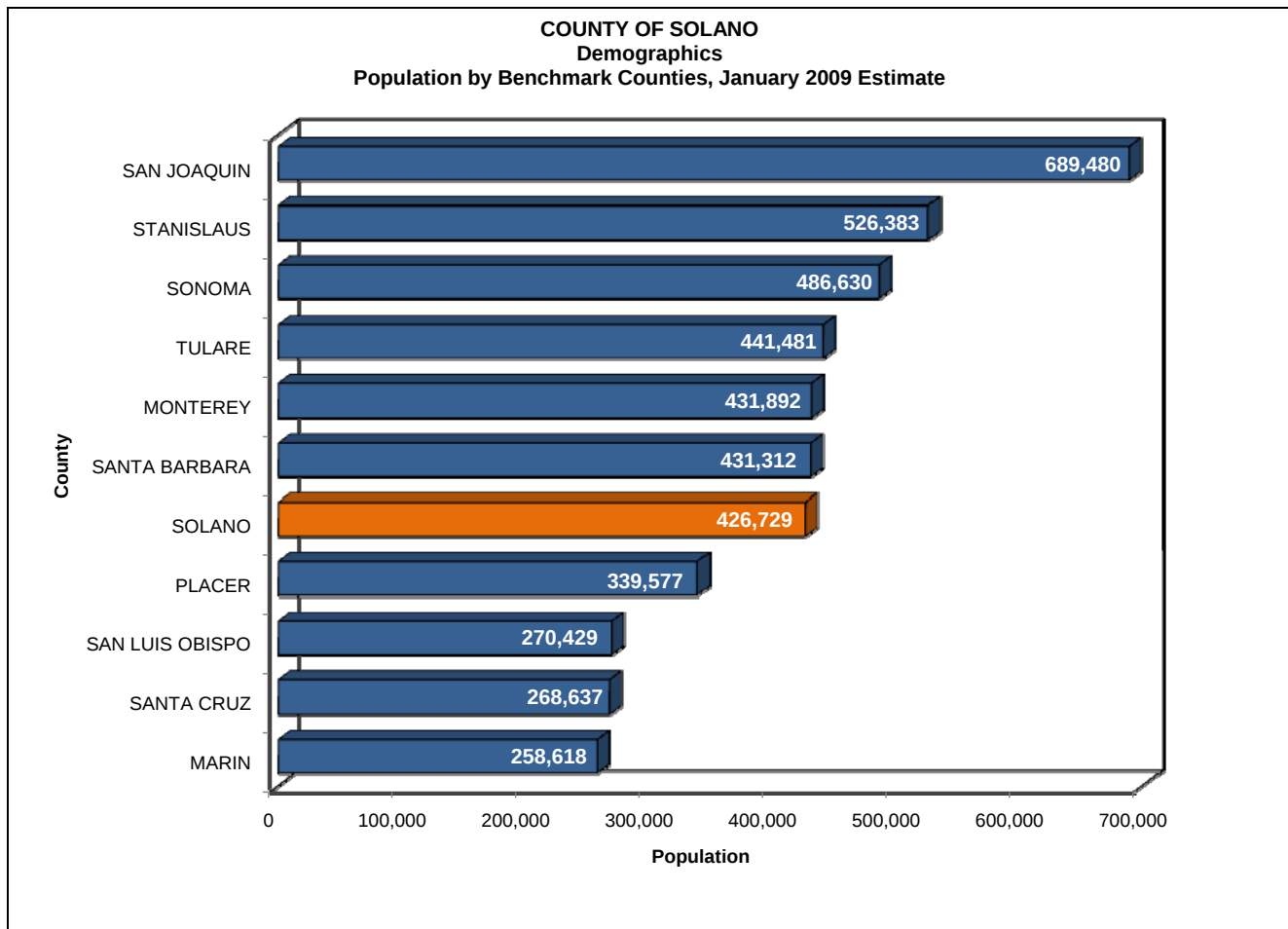
When reviewing Solano County's economic health, the County government's financial capacity, and the County's delivery of services to residents in unincorporated areas, the County inevitably compares itself from the current year to past years.

Additionally, the question of how Solano County compares with other counties is often asked. This leads to the question: Which counties should be used for comparison purposes?

A group of ten counties have been selected to be used for comparison in the following five charts. Solano County has the following characteristics in common with each of these counties:

- They are the ten counties closest to Solano in population – six with higher population and four with lower population.
- A total population of more than 250,000 but less than 700,000.
- All include both suburban and rural environments.
- None contain a city with over 300,000 in population.
- Six are coastal or Bay Area counties.
- Most have the same urban growth versus rural preservation issues facing Solano County.





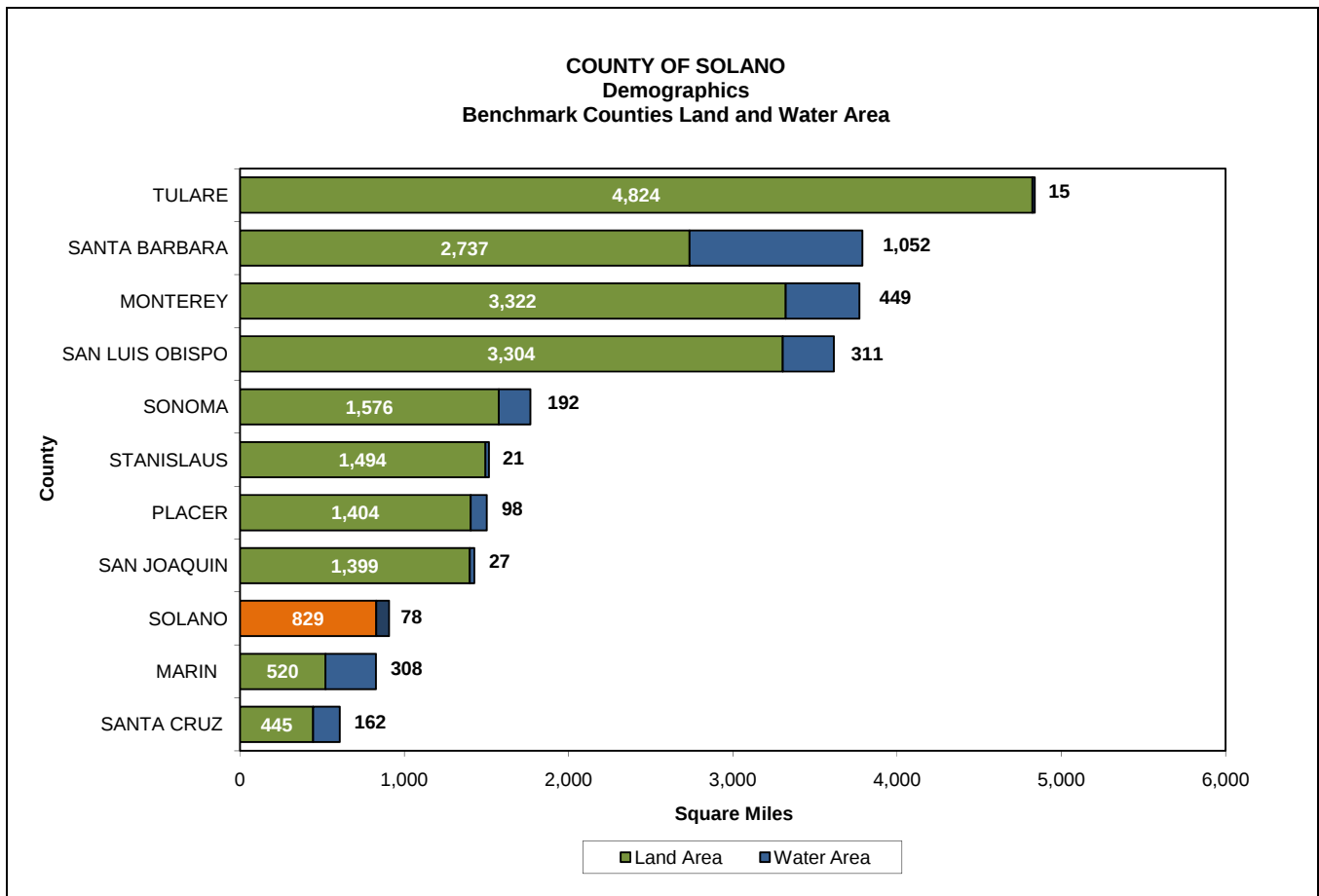
Source: California Department of Finance, Demographic Research Unit

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, Solano County consists of a total area of 907 square miles. Land area is represented by 829 square miles and water area by 78 square miles. Water area is 8.6% of the total area.

San Francisco Bay, Suisun Bay, the Carquinez Straits and the Sacramento River provide the county with natural borders to the south and west. Rich agricultural land lies in the northern area of the county while rolling hills are part of the southern area.

Approximately 62% of the county land area is comprised of farmland.

Despite having a smaller than average land and water area when compared to the Benchmark counties, Solano County's proximity to the Bay Area and the fact that the county contains the Suisun Marsh, which is the largest contiguous brackish water wetland in the western United States and a protected habitat, brings up complex issues for County government.

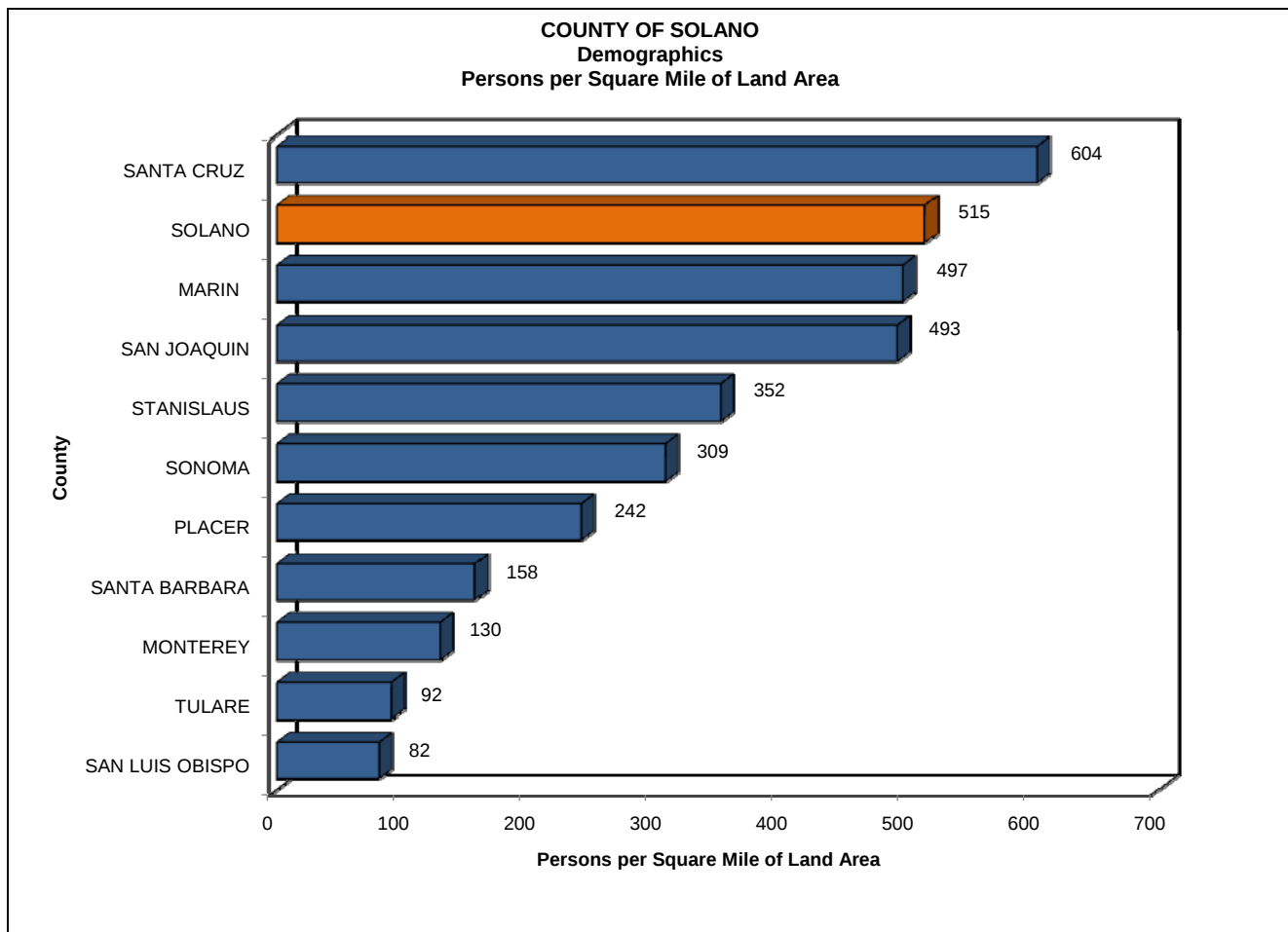


Source: U.S. Census Bureau

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As shown in the following tables entitled Persons per Square Mile of Land Area and Percent Residing in the Unincorporated Areas, while Solano County has a high per-square-mile (land area) population density, its residents are concentrated in cities. According to the California Department of Finance's January 2009 City/County Population Estimates, 83% of California residents live in cities and 17% in

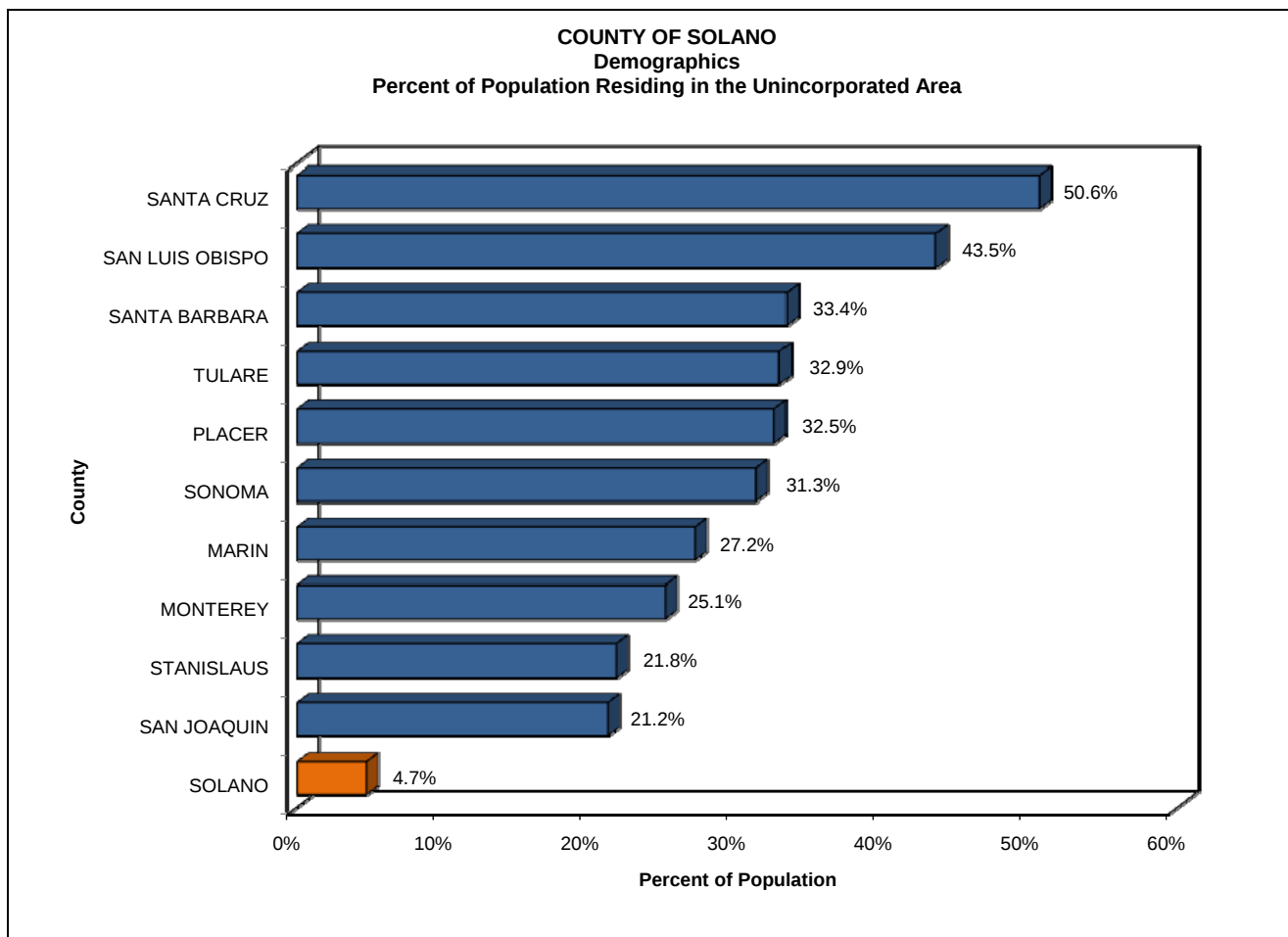
unincorporated areas. In contrast, in Solano County, 95% of residents live within the county's seven cities. This phenomenon was not an accident. In the early 1980s the residents of the county passed the Urban Growth Initiative, Measure A, which limits most urban growth to incorporated cities.



Source: California Department of Finance, Demographics Research Unit

This unique mixture of a sizeable urban population and a large rural/agricultural base creates many problems and challenges for County government. These include:

- Balancing continuing urban growth pressures with the need to preserve agriculture and open space.
- Problems in the transition zones between urbanized areas and agricultural areas (i.e., land use, pesticide use, dust, odors and vermin).
- Coordination of infrastructure transitions from the urban areas to the rural areas (i.e., reliever routes, upgraded feeder streets/roads and flood control).
- A large urban-driven need (as indicated by the high density per square mile) for health, public assistance and law and justice services with little County government control or influence in promoting initiatives in the urban environment that would create long-term improvements.



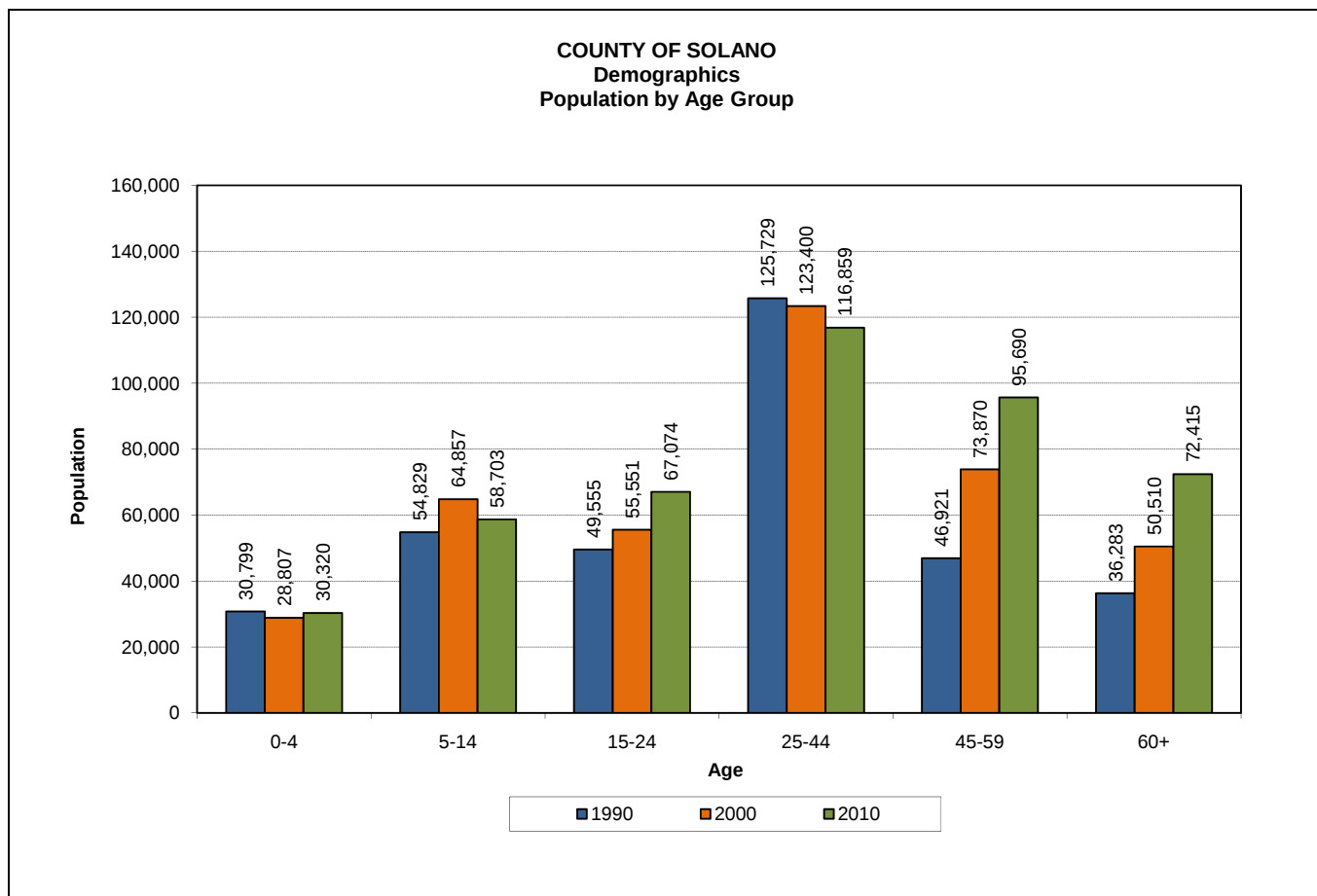
Source: California Department of Finance, Demographic Research Unit

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Population and Demographic Profile

The following charts entitled Population by Age Group and Population by Percentages in Various Age Groups show that from 1990 to 2000, the 45 to 59 age group of Solano County residents was the fastest growing population segment with an increase of 26,949 residents, or 57.4%. Not far behind is the 60+ age group with an increase of 14,227 residents, or 39.2%.

From 2000 to 2010, the projections are that the 60+ age group will be the fastest growing population segment with an increase of 21,905 residents, or 43.4%. This segment of the county's population is projected to continue growing at a faster rate than the other age groups. The 45 to 59 age group will be the second largest growing segment at 29.5%. In 2010, almost one in every six county residents will be over the age of 60.



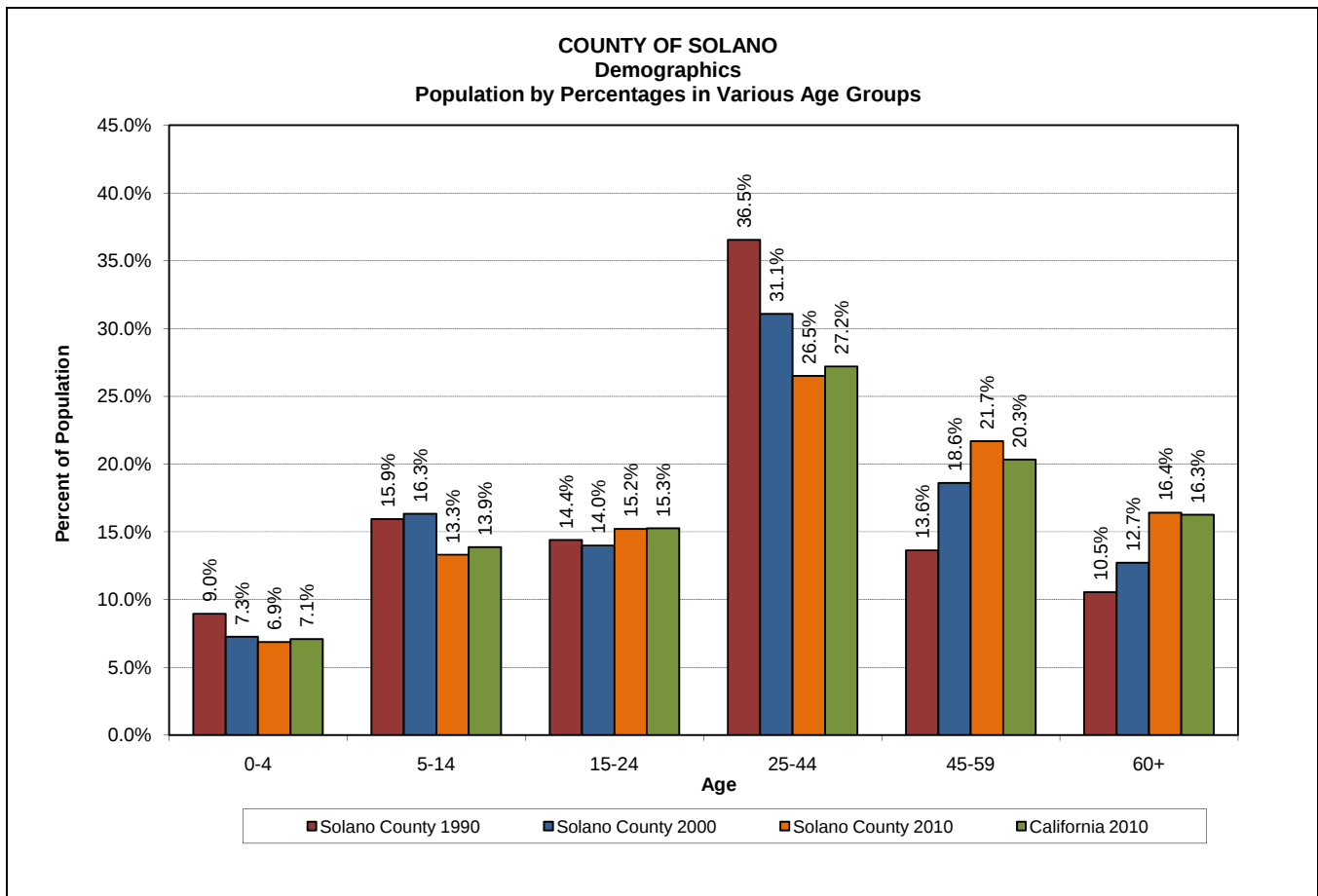
Source: California Department of Finance, Demographic Research Unit

While the population in Solano County is projected to grow 28.2% between the year 1990 and 2010, the 45 to 59 age group is projected to grow by 103.9% and the 60+ age group by 99.6%, reflecting an aging population.

Segments that are projected to decrease over this 20 year period are the 0 to 4 age group by 1.6% and the 25 to 44 age group by 7.1%.

The age demographics in Solano County are very similar to those of the State of California, and the

trend of these demographics indicators are consistent with the current “graying” of a large segment of the American population. The “Baby Boom” generation (those born between 1946 and 1964) represents a significant segment of the nation’s population, and they will begin reaching retirement age (65) in 2011. In 2010, 38.1% of Solano County’s population and 36.6% of the State’s population are projected to be over 45 years of age.



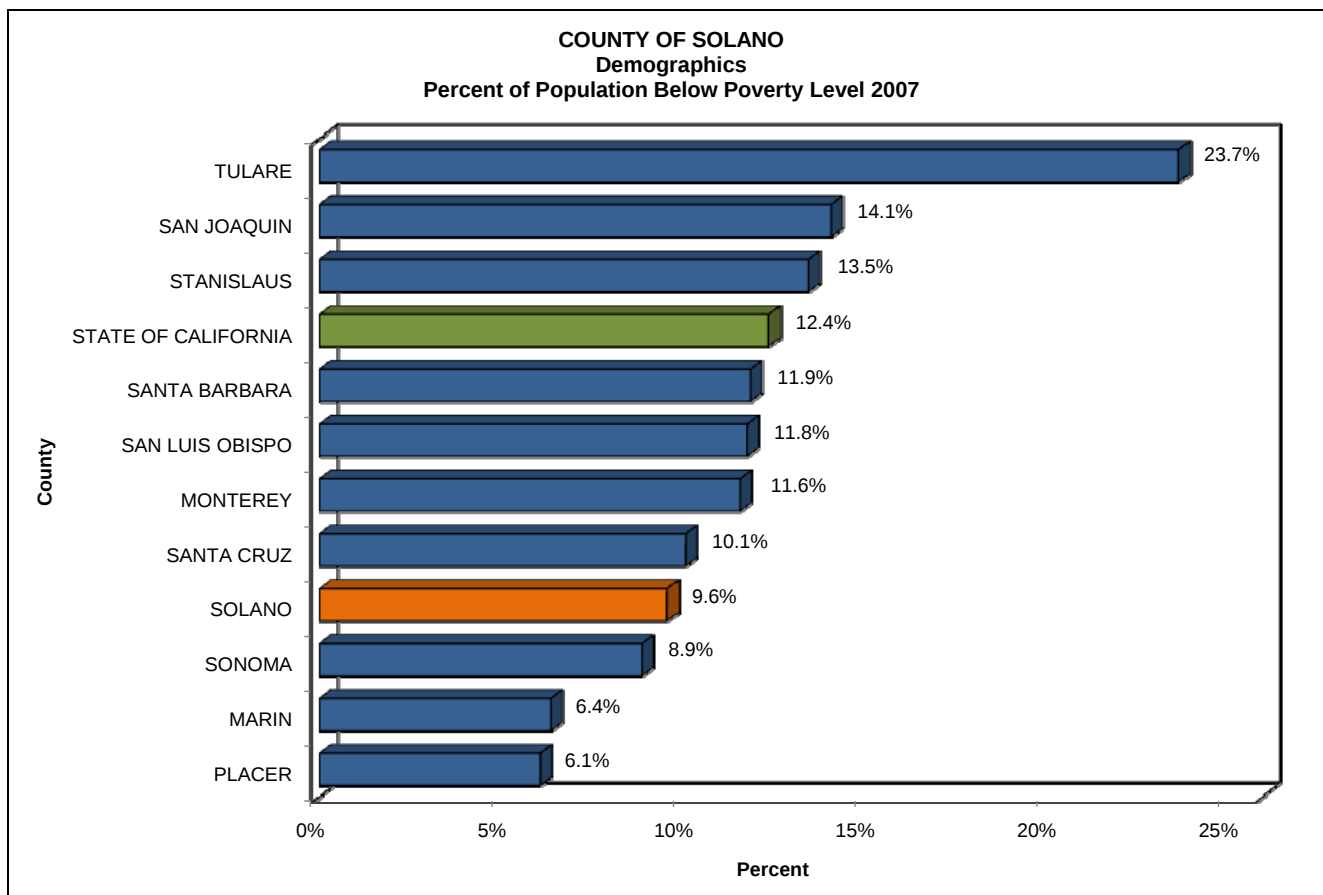
Source: California Department of Finance, Demographic Research Unit

Population Living in Poverty

The U. S. Census Bureau's 2007 American Community Survey poverty level figures show 9.6% of the county population is living at or below poverty level. This is (1.2) percentage points below the 2006 American Community Survey. The U.S. Census Bureau's statistics on poverty provide an important measure of economic well-being and are sometimes used to assess the need or eligibility for various types of public assistance.

Poverty statistics presented use thresholds prescribed for Federal agencies by the Office of Management and Budget and are estimates. It should be noted that only three of the comparison counties have a lower rate. While the county's level is not acceptable, the county's rate is an improvement over the 12.4% state rate for population living at or below poverty level.

The impact of the recession can be seen in the increase demand for social services. As of January 2009, applications for Food Stamps were up 36.9%, CalWORKS up 12.5%, General Assistance up 64.3% and Medi-Cal up 11.1% over a year earlier.



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2007 American Community Survey

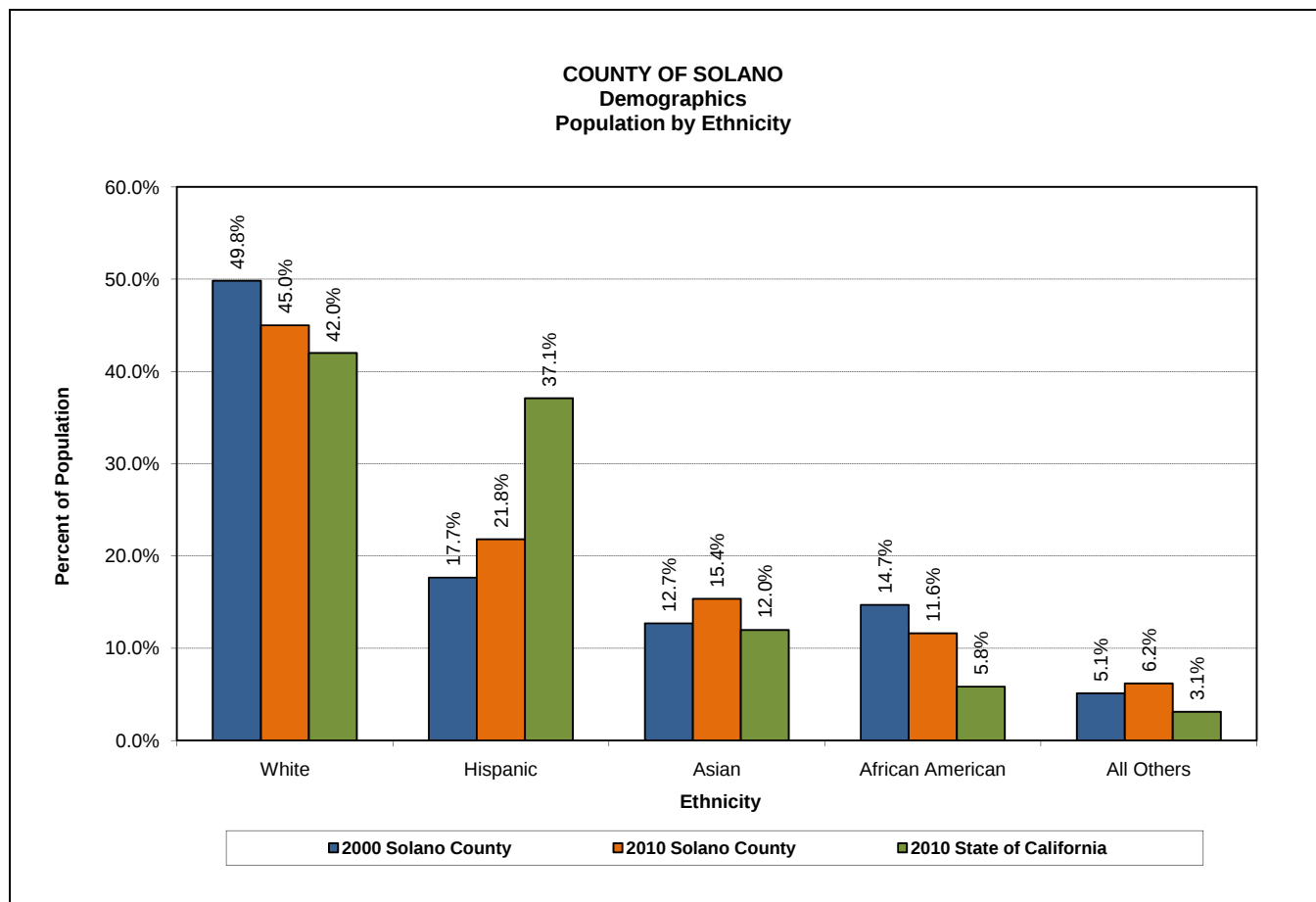
Population by Ethnicity

The following chart entitled Population by Ethnicity reflects July 1, 2000 and 2010 percentages of the County's population in each segment. The data indicates that percentages have increased in all ethnic segments, from the year 2000 to 2010, with the exception of the White and African American segments. These segments of the population are projected to decrease (4.8%) and (3.1%) respectively. In the year 2000, the White category represented almost 50% of Solano County's population; in 2010, this segment is projected to represent 45% of the population.

The most significant increase occurred in the Hispanic segment with a projected 37.3% increase over the 2000 data and will represent 21.8% of the 2010 county population.

The Asian segment is projected to have a 34.4% increase from the 2000 population data and will represent 15.4% of the county population in 2010 and the African American segment is projected to represent 11.6%.

The Other segment (includes Native Americans, Alaskan, Hawaiian, Pacific Islanders and Multi-race segments) population is projected to increase 34.5% over the period and will represent 6.2% of the county's population in 2010.



Source: California Department of Finance, Demographic Research Unit

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Major Private Sector Employers

The following Table shows the major private sector employers in Solano County and illustrates the diverse nature of the county's economy.

Twenty Top Private Sector County Employers for 2008				
Rank	Company	Location	Type of Business	Number of Employees
1	Kaiser Permanente	Fairfield/Vacaville/Vallejo	Health Services	3,262
2	Six Flags Discovery Kingdom	Vallejo	Entertainment	1,500
3	NorthBay Healthcare System	Fairfield	Health Services	1,480
4	Genentech Incorporated	Vacaville	Biotech Manufacturing	950
5	Wal-Mart	Dixon/Fairfield/Vacaville	Retail	890
6	Sutter Solano Medical Center	Vallejo	Health Services	674
7	ALZA Corporation	Vacaville	Biotech Manufacturing	600
8	Westamerica Bancorporation	Fairfield	Finance	542
9	Valero Refining Company	Benicia	Oil (Refinery)	480
10	Anheuser-Busch Brewery	Fairfield	Manufacturing (Brewery)	465
11	Albertson's Distribution Center	Vacaville	Distribution	450
12	Travis Credit Union	Vacaville	Finance	420
13	CSK Auto, Inc. (Kragen)	Dixon	Distribution	400
14	Jelly Belly Candy Company	Fairfield	Manufacturing	400
15	TIMEC Company	Vallejo	Construction	400
16	Meyer Corporation	Fairfield/Vallejo	Manufacturing/Distribution	367
17	Macy's	Fairfield	Retail	337
18	Copart	Fairfield	Auto Dealership	325
19	Professional Hospital Supply	Fairfield	Distribution	300
20	Simpson Dura Vent	Vacaville	Manufacturing	275

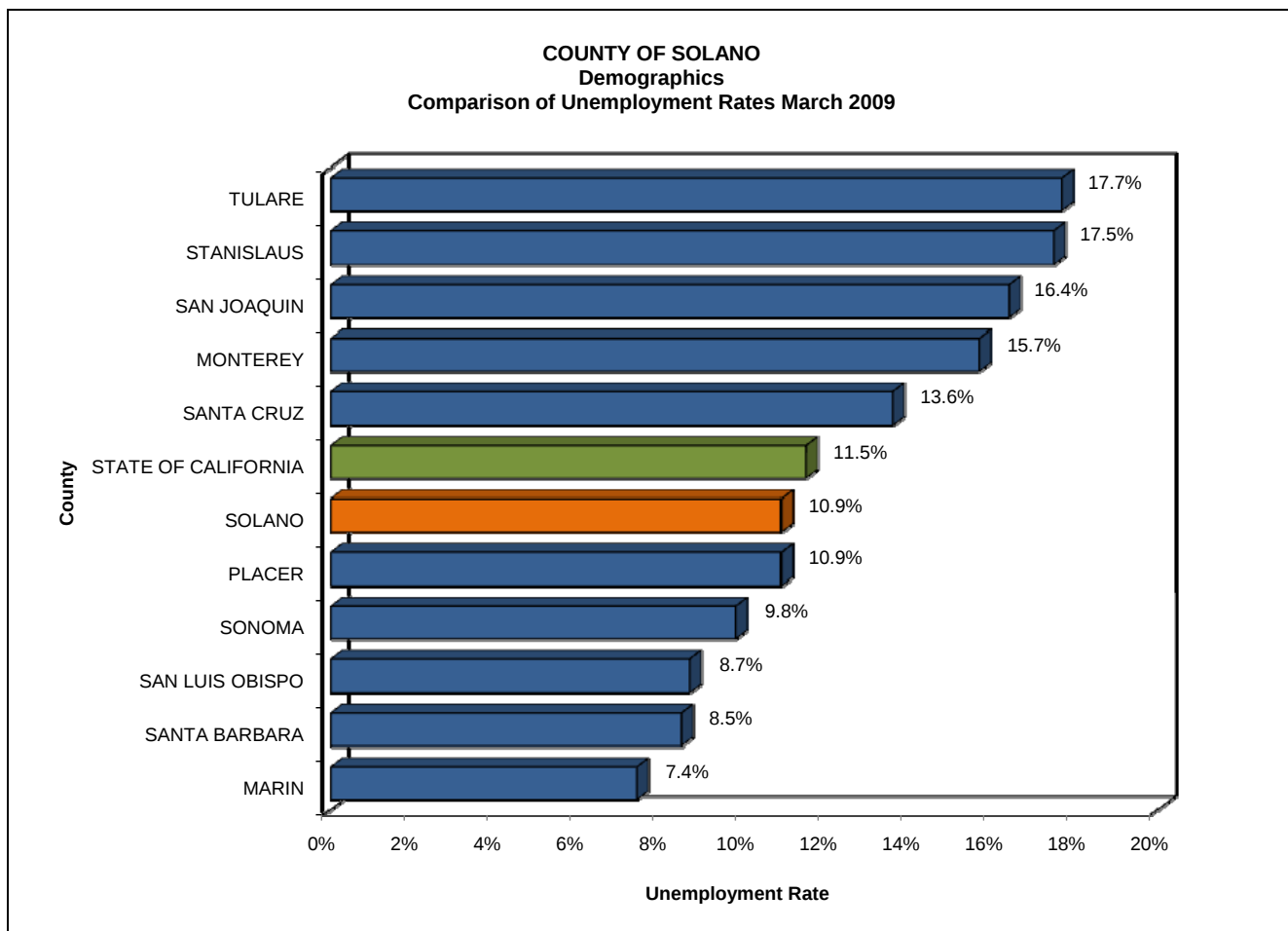
Source: Solano Economic Development Corporation – July 2008

Employment and Economic Growth

The State of California has seen an increase in the number of people without jobs over the last year. The March unemployment rate for the state climbed to 11.5%, up from 6.4% a year ago.

Here in Solano County, the unemployment rate has climbed to 10.9%, up from 6.4% a year ago.

The graph below shows the county's unemployment rate to the comparison counties and the State of California.

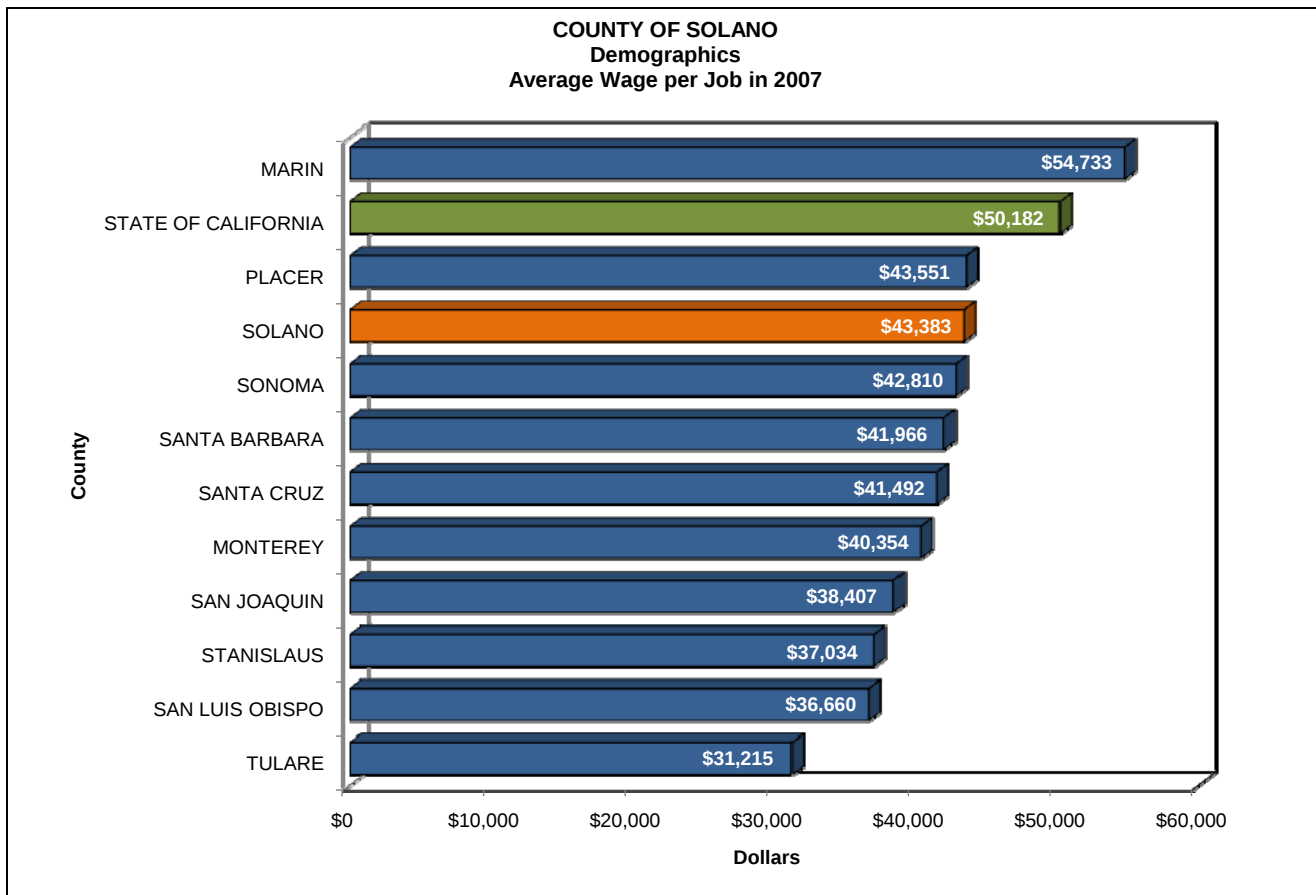


Source: California Employment Development Department

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Solano County's average wage per job of \$43,383 is slightly above the median range of the comparison

counties, as demonstrated by the chart below.



Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis, U.S. Department of Commerce

The Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) projections through 2010 show Solano County job growth rates at approximately 2% per year, or approximately 7.5% over the next 5 years.

Between 2000 and 2005, 13,780 new jobs were created with 10,870 projected between 2005 and 2010. The fastest growing county industries since 2000 by overall percentage gain are:

- Financial and Professional Service sector with 5,550 new jobs, or 27.5%.
- Health, Education and Recreation Service with 11,020 new jobs, or 23.4%.
- Retail with 2,770 new jobs, or 15.7%.

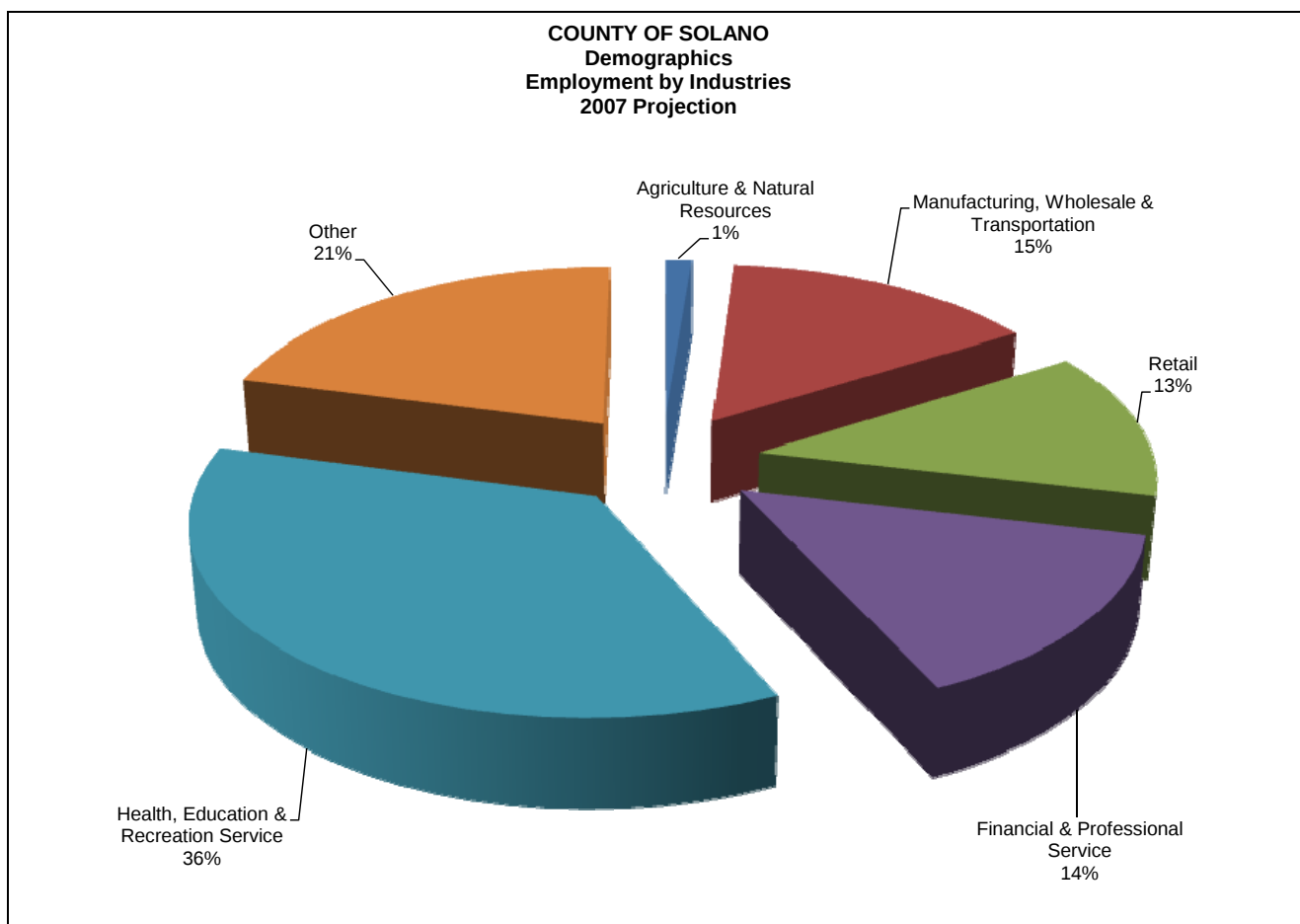
- Manufacturing, Wholesale and Transportation with 1,900 new jobs, or 8.6%.
- Agriculture and Natural Resources will lose 50 jobs, or (2.4%) decrease.
- The Other sector represents Construction, Information and Government services with 3,930 new jobs, or 13.3%.

The graph below represents the distribution of the 161,390 jobs in Solano County projected by ABAG in various industries in 2010. The 161,390 jobs in these industries include:

- 2,010 in Ag and Natural Resources.
- 20,370 in Retail.
- 23,400 in Financial and Professional Service.
- 23,940 in Manufacturing, Wholesale and Transportation.
- 33,640 in Construction, Information and Government services.

- 58,030 in Health, Education and Recreation services.

If the local workforce were able to fill all the available jobs in Solano County, it would still need approximately 82,000 additional jobs to allow all residents to live and work here. In reality, it's unlikely that there would be enough jobs in appropriate industries for the approximate 233,102 employed residents in the county.



Source: Association of Bay Area Governments

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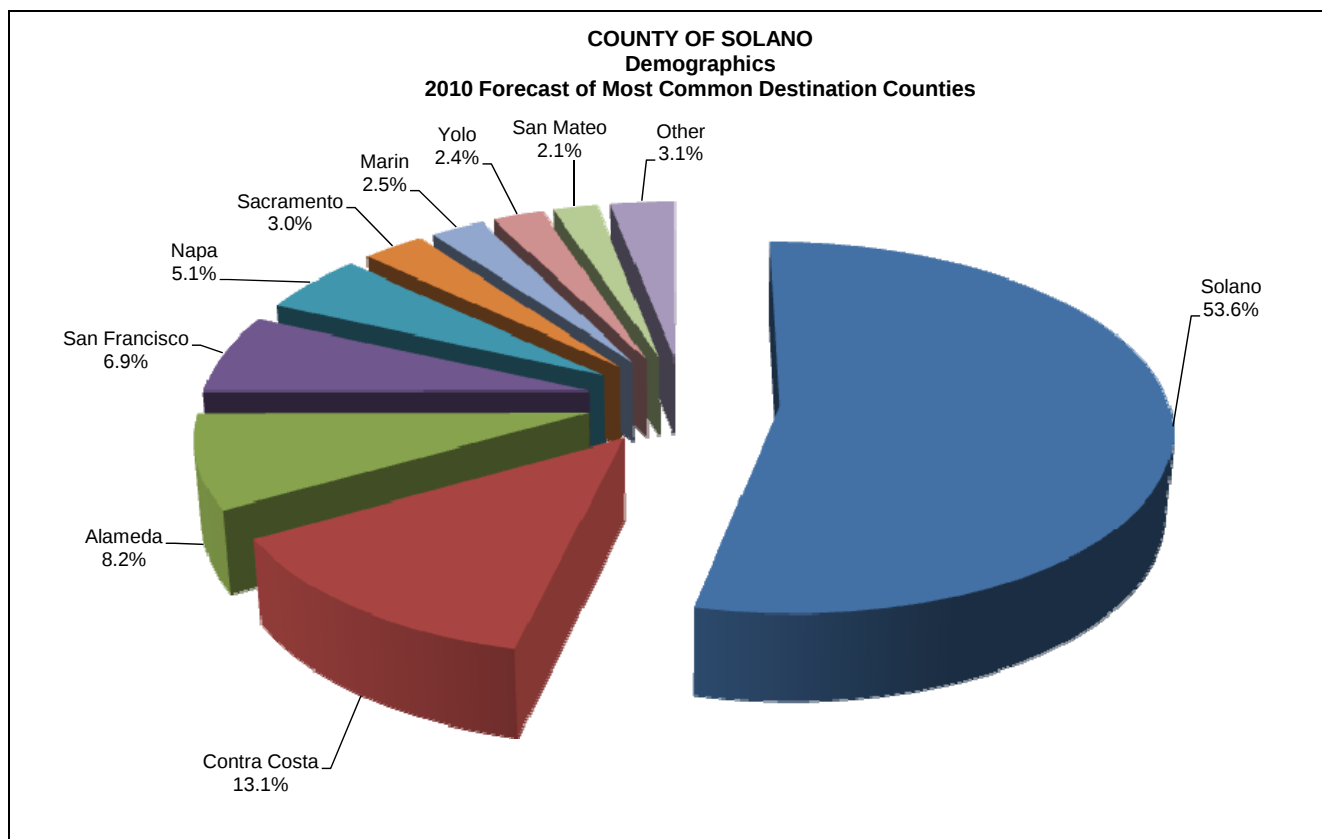
Solano County Commuting

According to a report by the Metropolitan Transportation Commission, approximately 46% of county working residents in 2010 are projected to commute to work outside the county with 54% staying inside the county to work.

The chart below represents the numbers of average daily commuters for a typical spring weekday. It includes commuters who reside in Solano County using any means of transportation, commuting to work including mainly the following neighboring counties: Contra Costa, Alameda, San Francisco, Napa, and Sacramento.

Based on the U.S. Census Bureau's 2007 American Community Survey, approximately 76% of employed county residents drive alone to work, 15% car pool, 3% use public transportation and 6% either work at home or use other modes of transportation. Solano County, along with Napa County, has the highest percent of commuters using car pools.

With all but one of the county's cities positioned along the Interstate 80 and 680 corridors, Solano County provides the commuter with access to Bay Area jobs and a lower living cost.



Source: Metropolitan Transportation Commission

Gross Agricultural Crop Value

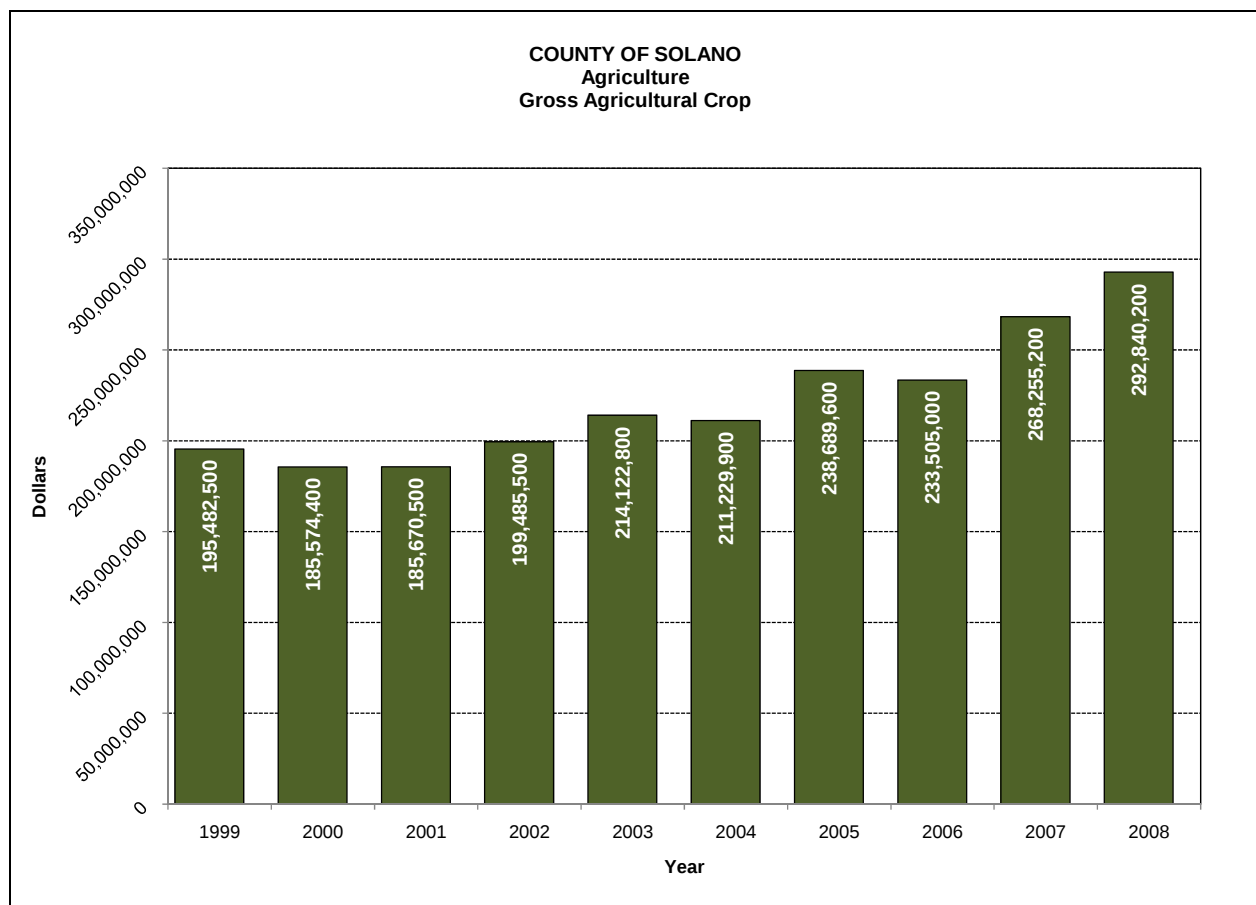
Sales of agricultural products continue to sustain the county's economy. The 2008 estimated value of \$292,840,200 represents an increase of 9% from 2007.

Solano County agriculture is diversified with approximately 80 different commodities including fruits, nuts, vegetables, grains, seed, nursery stock and animal production. The 2008 estimated value is divided as follows:

- \$89,365,400 – Field Crops
- \$55,623,500 – Vegetable Crops
- \$49,930,500 – Animal Production (Includes Livestock, Poultry and Apiary)
- \$44,036,600 – Fruit and Nut Crops
- \$43,056,300 – Nursery Production
- \$10,827,900 – Seed Crops

Improved hay and alfalfa prices, coupled with increased planted acreage, boosted crop values significantly in 2008. Vegetable crops and Fruit and Nut crops also showed improvement, with increases in processing tomato prices contributing to the total overall value of vegetable crops and an upturn in wine grape prices. Animal Production and Nursery values decreased in 2008, due in part to lower livestock price and weaker sales of nursery products, as the housing market continued to decline. Seed crops remained relatively stable with a slight reduction.

Statewide data from all counties' 2007 commodity reports ranked Solano County 27th out of 58 counties in California in gross value of agricultural production.



Source: County of Solano Agricultural Commissioner (2008 data based on preliminary figures)

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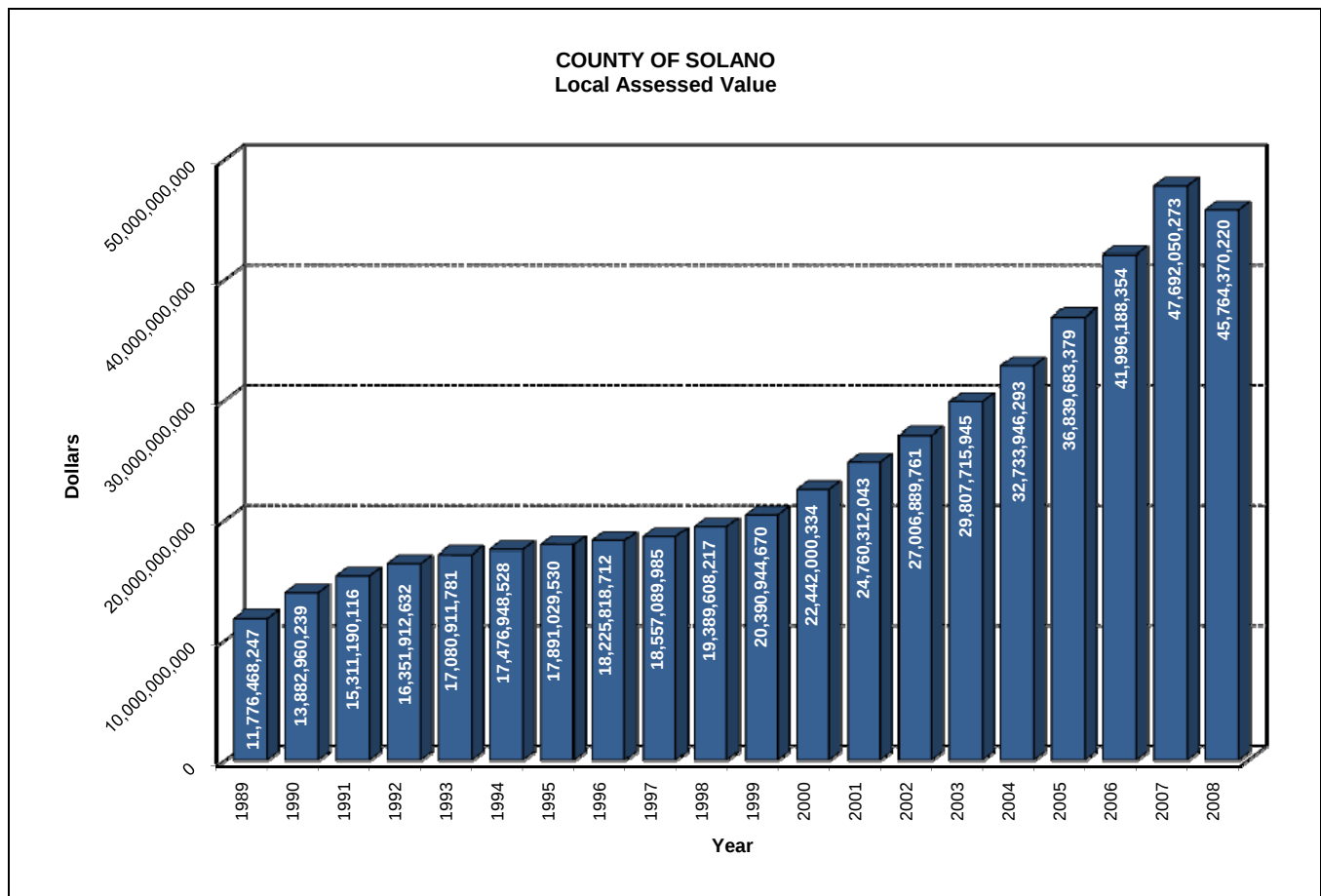
County Assessed Values and Growth

The table below illustrates the 20-year growth in assessed values in Solano County. Property taxes are a major source of local governmental revenues and are determined by assessed values. The property tax rate throughout the entire State of California is 1% of assessed values.

The 2008 Assessment Roll of \$45.8 billion decreased by (4%) over the prior year's roll value and represents property ownership in Solano County as of January 1, 2008. Declines in property assessments, and in turn property tax revenues, are expected to continue through FY2012/13. Given the current trend information, projected property tax

revenues in FY2013/14 will be 82% of what the County was receiving in FY2007/08.

Major factors for the lowering assessment roll are the high number of foreclosures and dramatically reduced median price of residential homes. Solano County had the unpleasant distinction in 2008 of having the 14th highest rate of foreclosures in the nation. The trend in 2009 continued with approximately 1,875 households receiving foreclosure notices in April 2009, up 33% over a year earlier. The median price for homes sold in Solano County went from \$450,000 in March 2007 to \$180,000 in March 2009.



Source: County of Solano, Assessor's Office, January 2009

Principal Property Tax Payers

COUNTY OF SOLANO			
Principal Taxpayers with over \$50,000,000 in Assessed Value for FY2008/09			
Principal Property Tax Payers	Business Type	Assessed Value FY2008/09	Tax Obligation*
Genentech Incorporated	Manufacturing	1,277,528,638	14,445,165
Valero Refining Company Calif.	Oil	806,626,616	9,302,126
Pacific Gas & Electric Company	Utility	446,696,609	6,071,498
Anheuser Busch Incorporated	Manufacturing	266,279,837	2,925,065
Shiloh I Wind Project LLC	Energy	203,580,627	2,100,341
Alza Corporation	Manufacturing	194,877,973	2,155,022
High Winds LLC	Energy	172,527,012	1,779,961
California Northern Railroad	Transportation	156,205,502	2,158,582
Pacific Bell Telephone Company	Utility	125,809,701	1,661,222
Walton CWCA BN WRHS 21 LLC	Property Management	125,460,000	1,443,628
Solano Mall LLC	Commercial Sales	101,670,449	1,123,743
CPG Finance II LLC	Commercial Sales & Service	93,475,177	1,557,014
Nut Tree Retail LLC	Commercial Sales	90,301,551	1,241,356
Amcor Pet Packaging USA Inc 79	Manufacturing	80,834,002	2,615,849
Deutsche Bank National Trust Company	Financial	72,581,043	909,248
Centro Watt Property Owner II	Commercial Sales & Service	71,086,350	945,828
Park Management Corporation	Theme Park	60,818,310	1,309,998
Oates Marvin L TR	Not Applicable	56,256,909	886,758
Kaiser Foundation Hospitals	Healthcare	54,370,393	653,820
Lucky (FLA) Nocal Investor LLC	Commercial Sales	52,043,402	590,397
North Pointe Vacaville Incorporated	Property Management	51,569,374	575,787
*Note: The Tax Obligation is calculated at 1% plus voter approved bonds and any special assessments. Rates vary by Tax Area Code.			
LLC - Limited Liability Corporation			
LP - Limited Partnership			
TR - Trust			

Source: County of Solano, Tax Collector/County Clerk, September 2008