

**SOLANO COUNTY STATISTICAL PROFILE**

The County of Solano is strategically located along Interstate 80 between San Francisco and Sacramento. As one of California’s original 27 counties, Solano County 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:

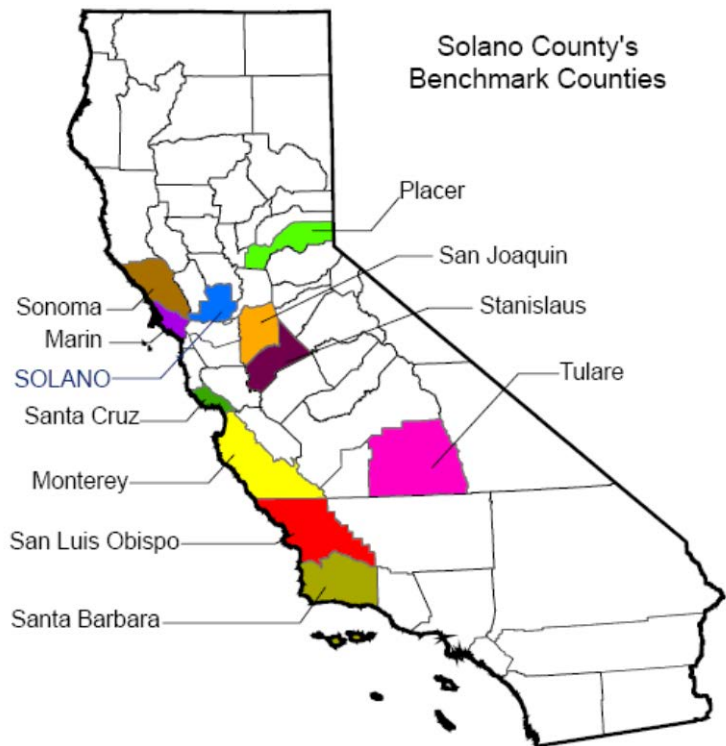
- Libraries (as contract services for cities)
- Jails and Juvenile Facilities
- Probationary Supervision
- District Attorney
- Public Defender and Alternative Defense
- Grand Jury
- Coroner and Forensic Services
- Airport
- Family Support Collection
- Public and Mental Health Services
- Indigent Medical 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 (unincorporated county only)

**BENCHMARK COUNTIES**

The following pages provide a graphical summary of statistical, employment and demographic information about Solano County. 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 seven of the following charts. Solano County has the following characteristics in common with each of these counties:



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- 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 750,000.
- All include both suburban and rural environments.
- None contain a city with more than 300,000 in population.
- Six are coastal or Bay Area counties.
- Most have the same urban growth versus rural preservation challenges facing Solano County.

**POPULATION**

The California Department of Finance's January 1, 2015 estimate of the population of Solano County is 429,552, increasing 4,383 residents or 1.0% over 2014. Of California's 58 counties, Solano County ranks 39<sup>th</sup> in terms of population size. Among the cities, two cities grew faster than the overall county growth rate between 2014 and 2015: Rio Vista at 3.1% and Fairfield at 1.5%.

California's population estimate was 38.71 million as of January 2015, according to the State Department of Finance. California, the nation's most populous state, represents 12% of the nation's population, or one out of every eight persons. Solano County's population represents 1.1% of the state population.

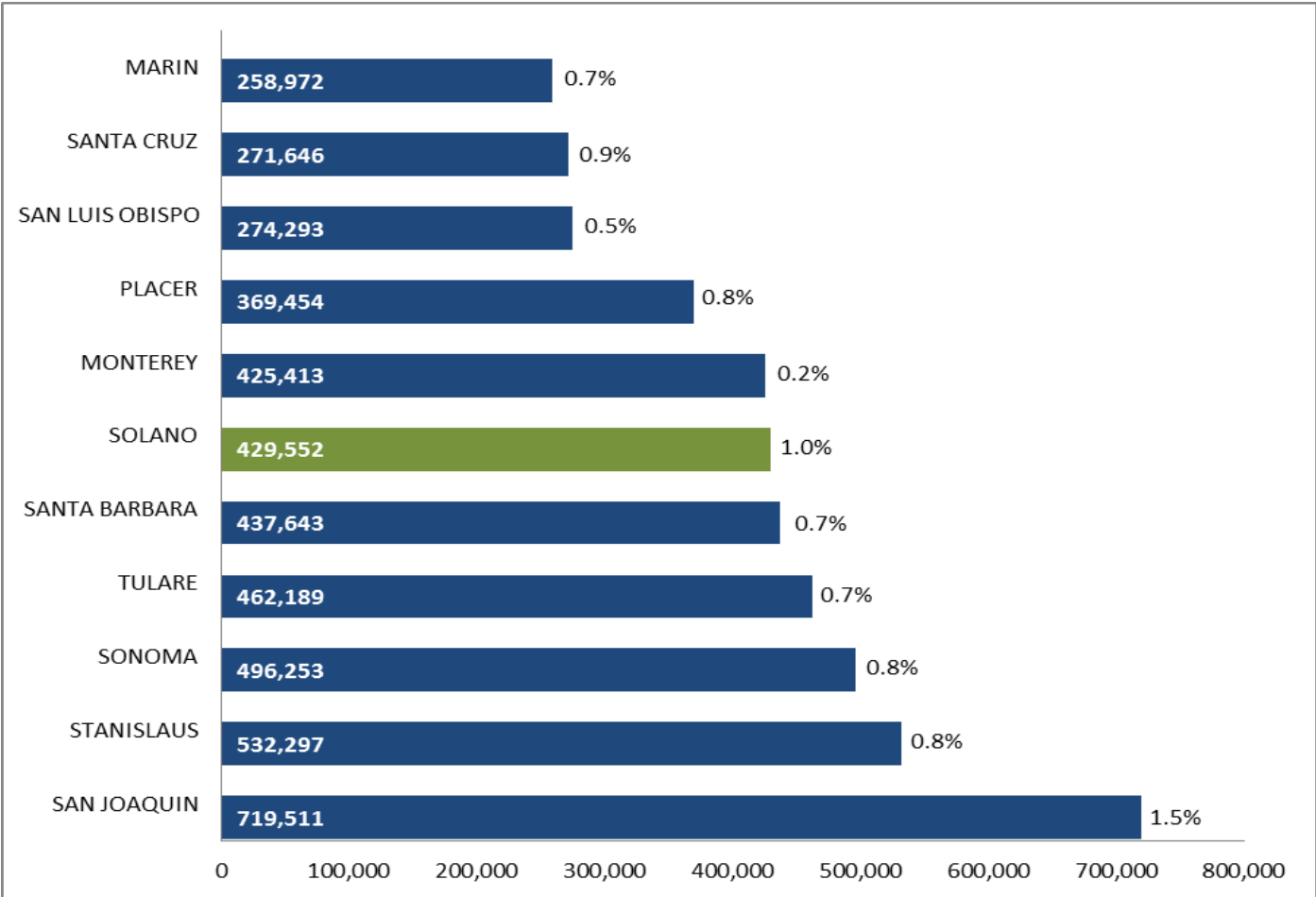
When you look at the county population since 2000, the rate of growth has tapered off to small annual increments. Between 2000 and 2010, the County grew by 18,802, or 4.8%, which is significantly less than the 54,121, or 15.9%, gains of the previous decade. Between 2010 and 2015, the county grew by 16,208 residents, or 3.9%.

**Solano County Population Change from 1990 to 2015**

	1990	1990 to 2000		2000	2000 to 2010		2010	2010 to 2014		2014
<b>Benicia</b>	<b>24,437</b>	2,428	9.9%	<b>26,865</b>	132	0.5%	<b>26,997</b>	692	2.6%	<b>27,689</b>
<b>Dixon</b>	<b>10,401</b>	5,702	54.8%	<b>16,103</b>	2,248	14.0%	<b>18,351</b>	807	4.4%	<b>19,158</b>
<b>Fairfield</b>	<b>77,211</b>	18,967	24.6%	<b>96,178</b>	9,143	9.5%	<b>105,321</b>	6,570	6.2%	<b>111,891</b>
<b>Rio Vista</b>	<b>3,316</b>	1,255	37.8%	<b>4,571</b>	2,789	61.0%	<b>7,360</b>	833	11.3%	<b>8,193</b>
<b>Suisun City</b>	<b>22,686</b>	3,432	15.1%	<b>26,118</b>	1,993	7.6%	<b>28,111</b>	777	2.8%	<b>28,888</b>
<b>Vacaville</b>	<b>71,479</b>	17,146	24.0%	<b>88,625</b>	3,803	4.3%	<b>92,428</b>	2,274	2.5%	<b>94,702</b>
<b>Vallejo</b>	<b>109,199</b>	7,561	6.9%	<b>116,760</b>	(818)	-0.7%	<b>115,942</b>	3,741	3.2%	<b>119,683</b>
<b>Unincorporated</b>	<b>21,692</b>	(2,370)	-10.9%	<b>19,322</b>	(488)	-2.5%	<b>18,834</b>	514	2.7%	<b>19,348</b>
<b>Solano County</b>	<b>340,421</b>	54,121	15.9%	<b>394,542</b>	18,802	4.8%	<b>413,344</b>	16,208	3.9%	<b>429,552</b>

Source: U.S. Census Bureau; California Department of Finance, Demographic Research Unit

**Population of Benchmark Counties and Population Growth Percentage from 2014**



Source: California Department of Finance, Demographic Research Unit, January 2015

Among the comparable counties, Solano County experienced 1% population growth between 2014 and 2015. Only San Joaquin County experienced faster growth rate (1.5%) than Solano County. The remaining counties experienced slower growth rates than Solano County. Growth rates in these counties range from 0.2% to 0.9% growth.

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**LAND AREA AND POPULATION DISTRIBUTION**

According to the California Department of Finance’s “January 2015 City/County Population Estimates,” 83.3% of California residents live in incorporated cities and 16.7% in unincorporated areas. In contrast, 95.5% of residents in Solano County live within the county’s seven cities. This phenomenon is by design. In the early 1980s the residents of the County passed an Orderly Growth Initiative, which was extended in 1994, that focuses most urban growth to the incorporated cities. The voters reaffirmed this measure through the adoption of the 2008 Solano County General Plan, sustaining a commitment to orderly growth through 2028.

In comparison to its benchmark counties, Solano County is one of the smaller counties in terms of square miles of land area. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, Solano County consists of 907 square miles, of which 78 square miles is covered with water. The San Pablo Bay, Suisun Bay, the Carquinez Straits and the Sacramento River provide the county with natural borders to the south and east. 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.

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

- Challenges in the transition zones between urbanized areas and agricultural areas (i.e., land use, pesticide use, dust, noise, odors and vermin).
- Coordination of infrastructure transitions from the urban areas to the rural areas (i.e., reliever routes, upgraded feeder streets/roads, flood control, limited intercity connectivity and public transportation).
- With limited resources and a reliance on property taxes and State/Federal funding, it is a challenge to provide urban-driven needs (as indicated by the high density per square mile) for health, mental health, public assistance and law and justice services.

**Comparison of Land Area and Population Density and Distribution in Benchmark Counties**

Land & Water Area (Square Miles)			Persons Per Square Mile (Land Area)		Percent Residing in Unincorporated Areas	
Tulare	4,824	15	Santa Cruz	610	Santa Cruz	49.3%
Monterey	3,322	449	Solano	518	San Luis Obispo	43.8%
San Luis Obispo	3,304	311	San Joaquin	514	Tulare	31.9%
Santa Barbara	2,737	1,052	Marin	498	Santa Barbara	31.8%
Sonoma	1,576	192	Stanislaus	356	Placer	30.5%
Stanislaus	1,494	21	Sonoma	315	Sonoma	30.0%
Placer	1,404	98	Placer	263	Marin	26.4%
San Joaquin	1,399	27	Santa Barbara	160	Monterey	24.4%
Solano	829	78	Monterey	128	Stanislaus	21.1%
Marin	520	308	Tulare	96	San Joaquin	20.4%
Santa Cruz	445	162	San Luis Obispo	83	Solano	4.5%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, California Department of Finance, Demographic Research Unit, January 2015

**POPULATION LIVING IN POVERTY**

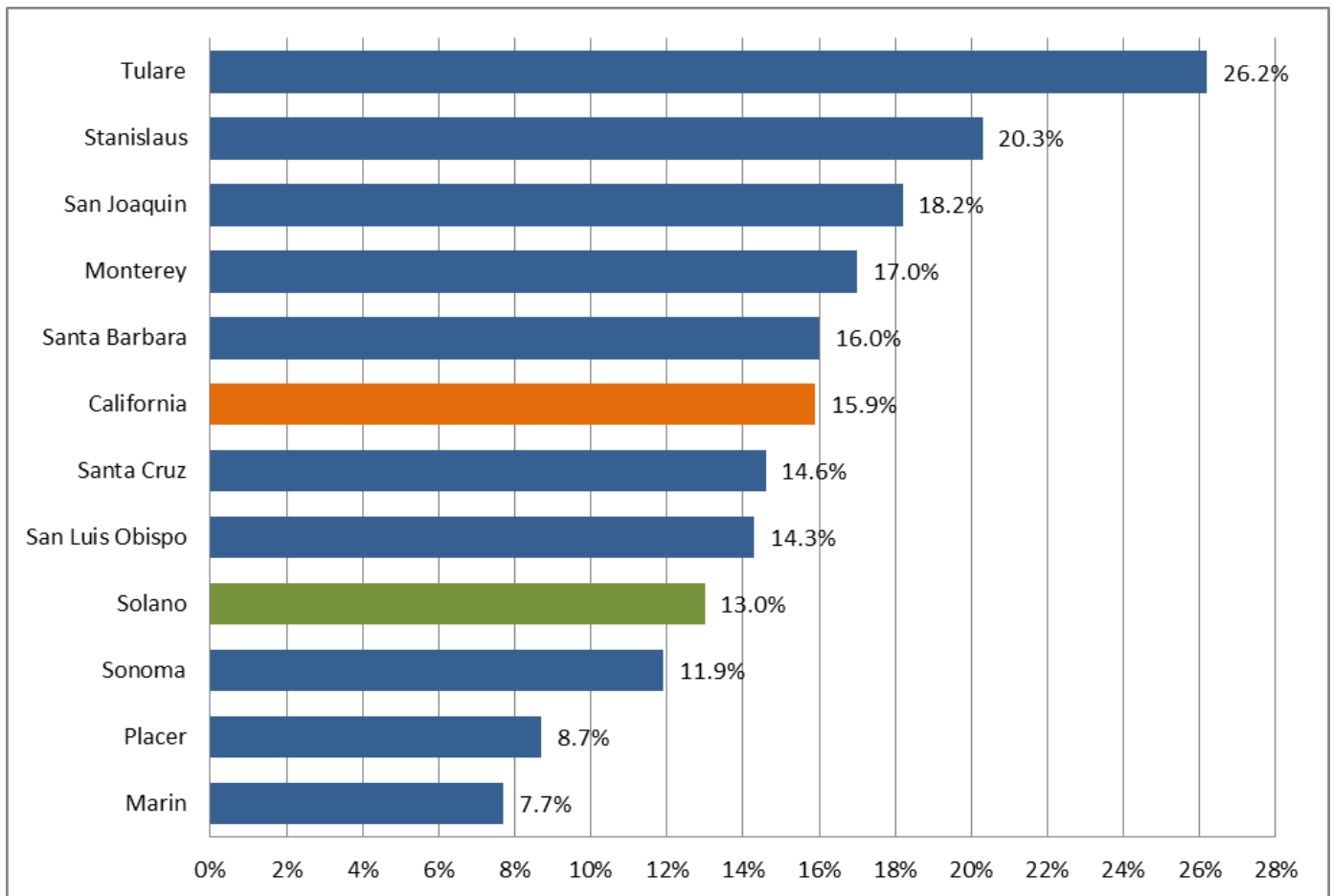
According to the 2009-2013 American Community Survey by the U.S. Census Bureau, 13% of the county population is living at or below the poverty level. The poverty rate in Solano County was 18.8% among residents under age 18 and 25.8% among families with female head of household and no husband present.

The number of residents living at or below the poverty level varies among Solano County’s seven cities: Benicia, 5.7%; Dixon, 11%; Fairfield, 13.6%; Rio Vista, 11.4%; Suisun City, 13.5%; Vacaville, 9.9%, and Vallejo, 17.5%.

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 considered desirable, the county’s rate is less than the 15.9% statewide average rate for population living at or below the poverty level.

These statistics reflect the lingering impacts of the Great Recession. In December 2006, a total of 14.7% of the county’s population was receiving public assistance, in the form of Food Stamps, CalWORKs, General Assistance and Medi-Cal. Five years later at the bottom of the recession the percentage of the population receiving public assistance climbed to 21.2%. In December 2014, a total 27.8% of the county’s population was receiving public assistance and has increased to 28.2% as of March 2015. The majority of the increase can be attributed to Medi-Cal eligibility and enrollments into the Affordable Care Act.

**Percent of Population in Poverty (All Ages) in Benchmark Counties**



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009-2013 American Community Survey

**HEALTH CARE AND THE AFFORDABLE CARE ACT**

Healthcare outcomes are strongly related to access to healthcare. Poverty has a negative impact, especially for preventive healthcare along with certain behavioral risk factors, such as smoking, poor diet, and a lack of physical activity. The 2010 Federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (ACA) was implemented on January 1, 2014. One of the primary goals of the ACA is to increase affordable healthcare coverage, thereby improving access to healthcare services. In California, this has been accomplished through expansion of Medi-Cal coverage to childless adults with incomes up to 133% of the federal poverty level and through the implementation of Covered California, a health insurance exchange with graduated financial support for those earning between 134% and 400% of the federal poverty limit. In less than two years, the ACA has assisted millions of Californians in obtaining new health insurance and has helped to significantly reduce the number of uninsured in the state. The ACA makes it mandatory for residents to have health insurance and affects which types of employers are required to provide health insurance benefits and.

**Solano County Health & Social Services Caseload Activity**

	June 2007	June 2010	June 2013	March 2015	Change '13 - '15	% Chg. '13 - '15
<b>Unduplicated Count</b>	<b>61,655</b>	<b>75,689</b>	<b>84,038</b>	<b>120,919</b>	<b>36,881</b>	<b>43.9%</b>
<b>% of Population</b>	<b>14.9%</b>	<b>18.3%</b>	<b>19.9%</b>	<b>28.2%</b>		
CalWORKs	16,676	18,953	16,850	18,077	1,227	7.3%
Welfare-to-Work	4,224	2,955	1,894	2,065	171	9.0%
General Assistance	594	811	470	677	207	44.0%
CalFresh (food stamps)	24,035	36,780	43,505	51,893	8,388	19.3%
Medi-Cal	60,383	70,693	77,600	114,125	36,525	14.1%
CSMP/Path2Health	4,257	4,509	6,384	466	(5,918)	(92.7%)
Foster Care	442	319	391	471	80	20.5%
Adoption Assistance Program	711	845	899	944	45	5.0%
KinGAP	10	43	51	73	22	43.1%

Source: Solano County Health and Social Services

**Individuals Below Select Percentages of Poverty Level**

	2007	2010	2013
<b>Poverty Level (Individual)</b>	<b>\$10,787</b>	<b>\$11,334</b>	<b>\$12,119</b>
50 percent of poverty level	4.2%	5.2%	7.1%
125 percent of poverty level	12.1%	15.6%	17.1%
150 percent of poverty level	14.0%	19.6%	21.4%
185 percent of poverty level	19.2%	24.8%	27.5%
200 percent of poverty level	22.2%	26.2%	29.1%

Source: American Community Survey, 2007, 2010 and 2013

Another major goal of the ACA is to help shift the focus of healthcare delivery from emergency treatment and chronic disease care to primary care and whole person healthcare, addressing a wide spectrum of physical, mental and behavioral health needs. The U.S. healthcare system spends a disproportionate amount of money on treatment in specialized-care settings and hospitals. Shifting the focus to primary care and to prevention of poor health outcomes will both reduce healthcare costs and, more importantly, improve health and quality of life. A more comprehensive and effective approach to healthcare recognizes the importance of mental, behavioral and physical health on the well-being of an individual. The ACA has emphasized increasing support for mental and behavioral health needs.

Implementation of the ACA has not been without some difficulties. There have been operational challenges in signing up large numbers of new enrollees and in rolling out the new computer systems for expanded Medi-Cal and Covered California. In addition, the ACA has simultaneously increased the number of clients seeking primary care services and the demand for primary healthcare providers throughout the healthcare system. As a result intensified competition for primary care and behavioral health providers in these early years has occurred. The substantial shortage of these providers has been worsened throughout the United States, including in Solano County due to retirements and an upswing in newly insured seeking health services. This has created challenges with respect to access to healthcare for many individuals, particularly for the remaining uninsured and those on Medi-Cal. This has also created challenges with respect to recruitment and retention of primary care providers.

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Since implementation of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) in October 2013, a total of 15,681 Solano residents have enrolled in private health insurance plans through Covered California. During the first open enrollment period (October 1, 2013 through March 31, 2014) 11,180 individuals enrolled; and during the second open enrollment period (November 15, 2014 through February 15, 2015) 4,501 individuals enrolled. In addition, with the expansion of Medi-Cal eligibility to single low-income adults, Medi-Cal enrollment has grown by 47% from 70,693 individuals in June 2013 to 114,125 individuals as of March 2015 in Solano County.

Much of the statistics describing Covered California activities are reported by regions. Solano County is part of the North Bay Region, which includes Solano, Napa, Marin and Sonoma counties. Between October 2013 and February 2014, the total enrollment for the North Bay Region was 52,081. Between November 2014 and February 2015, total enrollment was 17,215. Data on unsubsidized and subsidized participants is not yet available for specific cities or each county separately. Individuals signing up for health insurance coverage under Covered California were able to consider the features most important to them and the total anticipated out-of-pocket expenses when making their selection. The results of those selections by levels of coverage for this period in the North Bay Region was Minimum Coverage, 230 people; Bronze Level, 6,559 people; Silver Level, 8,896 people; Gold Level, 792; and Platinum Level, 747 people.

**Health Insurance Coverage by Type in Solano County**

By Coverage Type	Number Insured	Percentage Insured
<b>PRIVATE HEALTH INSURANCE</b>	<b>278,000</b>	<b>69.4%</b>
Private health insurance alone	222,401	55.5%
Employment-based health insurance	233,578	58.3%
Employment-based health insurance alone	193,296	48.2%
Direct-purchase health insurance	39,744	9.9%
Direct-purchase health insurance alone	18,727	4.7%
TRICARE/military health coverage	25,761	6.4%
TRICARE/military health coverage alone	10,378	2.6%
<b>PUBLIC COVERAGE</b>	<b>116,795</b>	<b>29.2%</b>
Public coverage alone	63,626	15.9%
Medicare coverage	53,133	13.3%
Medicare coverage alone	10,339	2.6%
Medi-Cal/means-tested public coverage	69,382	17.3%
Medi-Cal/means-tested public coverage alone	52,156	13.0%
VA Health Care	10,177	2.5%
VA Health Care alone	1,131	0.3%
<b>UNINSURED</b>	<b>51,556</b>	<b>12.9%</b>

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2013 American Community Survey, 2009-2013

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**PUBLIC SAFETY REALIGNMENT**

A portion of any community reflects those individuals who have run afoul of the law and are under the supervision of a State or Federal parole officer, County probation officer, or correctional officer in the case of those incarcerated in Federal, State, and local correctional institutions. In response to a 2009 federal court order for the State of California to reduce its prison population, California implemented several pieces of legislation, most notably AB 109 Public Safety Realignment, resulting in a shift of responsibility for specific low-level prisoners and parolees from the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation to the counties. This realignment changed the type of offenders who are under the supervision of county probation officers and altered the composition of inmates inside county jails. The State had anticipated the required Federal court order to reduce State jail populations would take 3 years to implement. In 2015, the State indicated it has met the required population reduction. This was achieved through a set of legislative changes which realigned sentencing, supervision, and jail incarceration terms from the State to counties.

Part of that change was a group offenders assigned to Post Release Community Supervision (PRCS). These non-serious, non-violent, non-sex offenders went from supervision by State parole officers to County probation officers. During the first three years of the program the State released 709 offenders to the PRCS program in Solano County, which was approximately 1% of all PRCS offenders released statewide. Solano County's total resident population represents 1% of the population in the state. This shift did not increase the population of offenders in Solano County, only shifted the supervising agency.

**Changes in PRCS/Jail Populations in Benchmark Counties**

	October 2012 to September 2013			October 2013 to September 2014		
	PRCS Offenders Released	1170 Jail Only Sentences	1170 Split Sentences	PRCS Offenders Released	1170 Jail Only Sentences	1170 Split Sentences
STANISLAUS	472	71	468	430	112	421
SAN JOAQUIN	417	95	324	526	61	229
TULARE	268	128	242	234	185	245
MONTEREY	214	286	36	176	253	95
SOLANO	187	245	52	140	189	116
SANTA BARBARA	158	102	165	140	1	124
SONOMA	122	42	142	103	55	205
PLACER	104	148	11	98	133	43
SAN LUIS OBISPO	88	229	45	98	232	74
SANTA CRUZ	55	46	32	71	42	38
MARIN	23	11	15	9	7	15
<b>CALIFORNIA</b>	<b>18,796</b>	<b>21,178</b>	<b>9,448</b>	<b>17,989</b>	<b>21,131</b>	<b>10,481</b>

Source: California Probation Officers of California

According to March 2015 statistics maintained by the County, there were 288 individuals in the PRCS program and 100 on mandatory supervision (1170h split sentences). The Solano County Courts have gradually increased the use of split sentences from 9% the first year to 18% in the second year, and 38% in the third year, sentencing more 1170h offenders to a term of mandatory supervision after release from County jail.

On November 4, 2014 the Safe Neighborhoods and Schools Act – Proposition 47 ballot initiative was passed by California voters. Proposition 47 reduces certain nonserious and nonviolent property and drug offenses from wobblers or felonies to misdemeanors, reducing penalties the court can give to offenders who have not committed certain severe crimes including murder and certain sex and gun crimes. Proposition 47 may have a significant impact on the realigned public safety population and on split sentences as it is projected that approximately 18% of all individuals under supervision (approximately 3,118) were serving a sentence for a Proposition 47 eligible crime. Further since November the number of Split sentences has been reduced by 50%.



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The demographic profile as of March 2015 of the PRCS group is of predominately male, 95% versus 73% male in the 1170h group, and the dominate ethnicities within these two groups are 41% African-American, 38% White and 15% Hispanic. The average age is 38, and they reside in every community within the county: 33% in Vallejo, 25% in Fairfield, 15% in Vacaville/Elmira, 3% in Suisun City and 24% in all other communities.

In April 2013, two comprehensive service hubs, Centers for Positive Change (CPCs), were opened to provide case-specific services for high-risk clients under the supervision of the County Probation Department were approved, and became fully functional in 2014. The CPCs in Vallejo and Fairfield have collectively served 402 clients, and have celebrated with 49 clients who have completed the center's entire set of programs. Each client's program differs depending on their individual case plan, and can take anywhere from three months to a year, with a majority of clients taking eight to ninth months. The CPCs hope to have another completion ceremony in July 2015, as its overall goal is to have two graduating classes each year.

With the implementation of AB 109 in October 2011, the demographics of the Solano County jail population has changed. As of March 2015, the County jail was housing 62 parole violators (known as 3056 PC), 32 Post Release Community Supervision violators and 94 locally sentenced offenders (known as 1170 offenders) in addition to pre-sentenced AB 109 offenders. A fifth of the 896 average daily population was from realignment. Prior to Public Safety Realignment, the jail population consisted of individuals awaiting trial and inmates serving sentences of less than one year. After realignment, convicted individuals are serving sentences up to 10 years. To address the evolving inmate population as a result of realignment, the County is proceeding on a two-prong approach – increased capacity within the jail system and incorporating training programs into the jail setting to provide offenders with skills to enhance their ability to cope in the outside world following their release back into the community.

The \$89.3 million 365-bed Stanton Correctional Facility, funded primarily with \$61.5 million in State AB 900 local jail construction financing and the balance from the local public facilities fee proceeds began housing inmates May 3, 2015. The facility uses electronic security systems that optimize security while minimizing staffing requirements. The Stanton Correctional Facility offers modern tools to the public, as well as the inmates, through the use of video visitation and modern telecommunication systems. The facility includes medical services, all ancillary support systems, including laundry facilities, an administrative services area, and a secure sally port with an intake and processing area.

The California Board of State and Community Corrections (BSCC) announced in January 2014 that Solano County was also selected for a conditional award of \$23 million to construct vocational/classroom training and rehabilitative services space (including mental health) to serve adult offenders in the custody of the Solano County Sheriff's Office. Construction design is underway for a 10,000 square foot pre-engineered classroom training center, a 30,000 square foot pre-engineered vocational training center and a paved asphalt area envisioned to be used for driver training of buses and commercial vehicles. This project is scheduled for completion in 2018.

**Changes in Population under Supervision in Solano County**

	State Parole	County Probation			Sheriff - Custody				Total
	Adults	PRCS	1170h PC	Adults	3056 PC	1170h PC	PRCS	Other	
October 2011	1,598	0	0	3,100	31	34	0	707	5,470
March 2013	778	357	34	3,026	136	200	45	556	5,132
March 2014	541	267	77	2,970	71	168	38	690	4,822
March 2015	449	288	100	2,684	62	94	32	708	4,417
<b>Change from 2014</b>	<b>(92)</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>(286)</b>	<b>(9)</b>	<b>(74)</b>	<b>(6)</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>(405)</b>
% Change	(11.8%)	5.9%	67.6%	(9.5%)	(6.6%)	(37.0%)	(13.3%)	3.2%	(7.9%)
<b>Change from 2011</b>	<b>(1,149)</b>	<b>288</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>(416)</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>(1,053)</b>
% Change	(71.9%)			(13.4%)	100.0%	176.5%		(0.1%)	(19.3%)

Source: Solano County Community Corrections Partnership and California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation

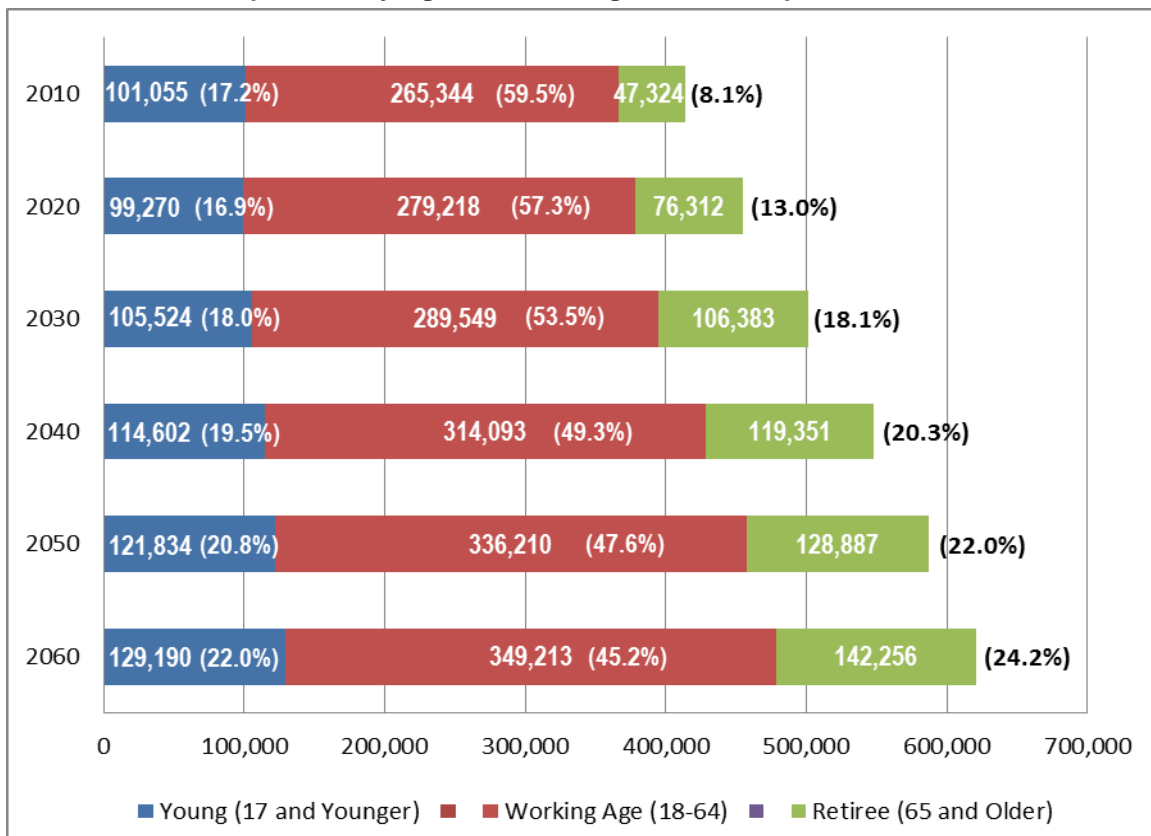
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**POPULATION BY AGE**

The population of Solano County is projected to grow to 620,659 or 33.3% by 2060, according to projections by the California Department of Finance. The age composition of that population is expected to shift significantly over the decades, with the median age increasing from 37.1 in 2010 to 43.2 in 2060. The aging of the population will affect the types of service demands placed on the County as well as impact statewide and regional planning efforts.

One way to evaluate this population change is to analyze the dependency ratio, which examines the population changes in relationship to the traditional working age population of 18 to 64. In 2010, for every 5.8 people in the Solano County workforce there were 2.2 children and 1.4 retirees. By 2060, the young population (age 17 and younger) is expected to increase 28,135 or 21.8%; the working age population by 83,869 or 24.0%; and retiree population (65 and older) by 94,932 or 66.7%.

**Share of Population By Age as Percentage of Total Population, 2010 to 2060**



Source: California Department of Finance

Over the next two decades, the Department of Finance projects significantly more people will be entering the retiree population age than those entering the working age population. By 2030, that trend shifts to the working age population becoming the largest population growth segment. At the other end of the age spectrum, declines in school-age children are projected to continue through 2020 before starting to recover.

**Estimated Population Change by Decade, 2010 to 2060**

	2010	2010 to 2020	2020 to 2030	2030 to 2040	2040 to 2050	2050 to 2060
Base Population	413,723	454,800	501,456	548,046	586,931	620,659
Young (17 and Younger)	101,055	(1,785)	6,254	9,078	7,232	7,356
Working Age (18-64)	265,344	13,874	10,331	24,544	22,117	13,003
Retiree (65 and Older)	47,324	28,988	30,071	12,968	9,536	13,369

**EMPLOYMENT AND ECONOMIC GROWTH**

According to the California Employment Development Department's preliminary March 2015 estimates, overall employment in California is better than it was a year ago. The Solano County unemployment rate was 6.3% in March 2015, down from 8.4% a year ago. The preliminary March 2015 unemployment rate for the state declined to 6.5%, down from 8.4% a year ago.

Between March 2014 and March 2015, overall employment in Solano County increased by 3,600 jobs while the size of the workforce shrank by 900 people actively seeking employment. This resulted in a net reduction of 4,500 unemployed residents.

Compared to March 2010, the low point of the Great Recession in Solano County, overall employment among county residents in March 2015 was up 15,200; however, the size of the labor force grew by 1,600 during that period. As a result, the number of unemployed residents decreased from 26,300 to 12,700. The unemployment rate in March 2010 was 13.0%.

**Unemployment Rates from March 2005 to March 2015 in Benchmark Counties**

	2005	2007	2010	2013	2014	2015
Marin	4.0%	3.5%	8.3%	5.4%	4.7%	3.5%
San Luis Obispo	4.5%	4.1%	10.4%	7.0%	6.1%	4.6%
Sonoma	4.8%	4.2%	11.4%	7.6%	6.3%	4.6%
Placer	4.5%	4.7%	12.0%	8.1%	7.0%	5.1%
Santa Barbara	4.8%	4.5%	10.5%	7.7%	6.8%	5.3%
Solano	5.7%	5.0%	13.0%	9.4%	8.4%	6.3%
California	5.8%	5.2%	12.8%	9.4%	8.4%	6.5%
Santa Cruz	8.1%	7.1%	15.9%	12.4%	11.3%	9.2%
San Joaquin	8.8%	8.2%	17.3%	13.5%	12.4%	9.5%
Monterey	10.3%	9.3%	16.6%	13.4%	12.5%	10.2%
Tulare	11.6%	10.4%	19.5%	16.2%	15.9%	13.2%

Source: California Employment Development Department, March 2005 to March 2015

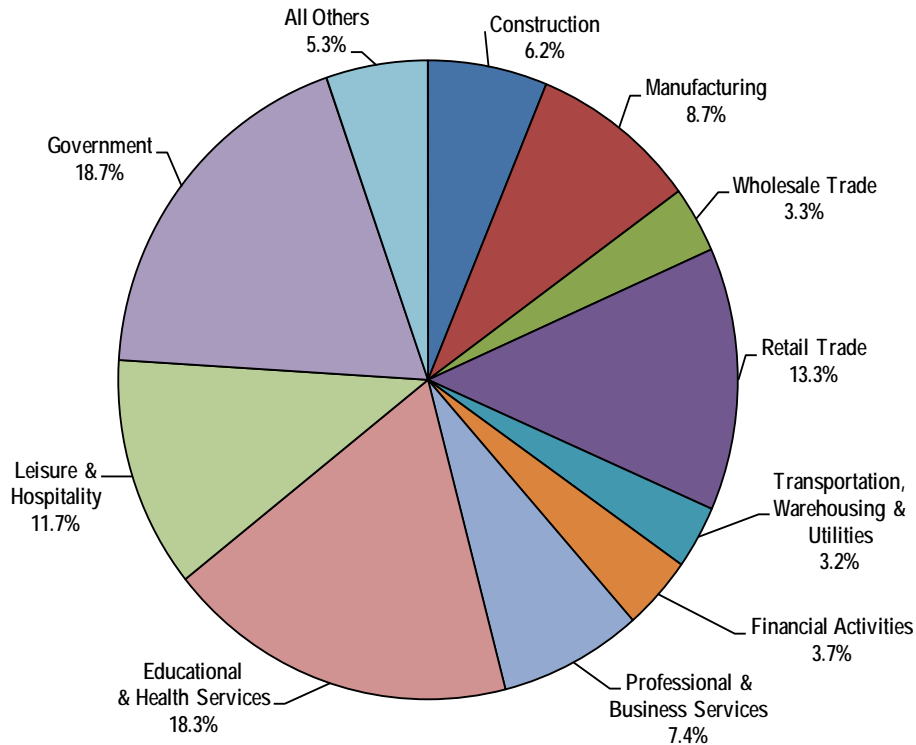
**Unemployment Rates from March 2005 to March 2015 in Solano County Cities**

	2005	2007	2010	2013	2014	2015
Benicia	3.5%	3.1%	7.4%	6.0%	5.3%	3.9%
Vacaville	4.2%	3.7%	10.5%	7.6%	6.7%	5.0%
Dixon	4.5%	4.0%	11.2%	8.1%	7.2%	5.3%
Suisun City	5.9%	5.2%	11.5%	8.3%	7.3%	5.5%
Fairfield	6.2%	5.6%	11.8%	8.5%	7.6%	5.6%
Vallejo	7.1%	6.3%	17.2%	12.7%	11.3%	8.5%
Rio Vista	4.2%	3.7%	7.7%	18.1%	16.2%	12.4%

Source: California Employment Development Department, March 2005 to March 2015

The traditional unemployment rate calculated by EDD is not a complete picture of the number of residents who are not employed, as it only represents the people who are actively seeking employment. Individuals discouraged by employment prospects and were not actively seeking employment are excluded. The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics provides alternative measures of labor underutilization that includes these marginally attached workers. According to these figures, 15.2% of California residents were not fully employed in 2014 compared to the traditional unemployment rate of 8.4% for 2014 as reported by the California Employment Development Department. This represents a continued decline since the bottom of the recession: 17.3% in 2013, 19.3% in 2012, 21.1% in 2011 and 22.1% in 2010. The more comprehensive figure includes the total unemployed residents, plus all marginally attached workers, total employed part-time for economic reasons. Similar statistics are not available at the county level; however, Solano County tends to mirror statewide employment and unemployment trends.

**Share of Total Employment by Industries in Solano County – March 2015**



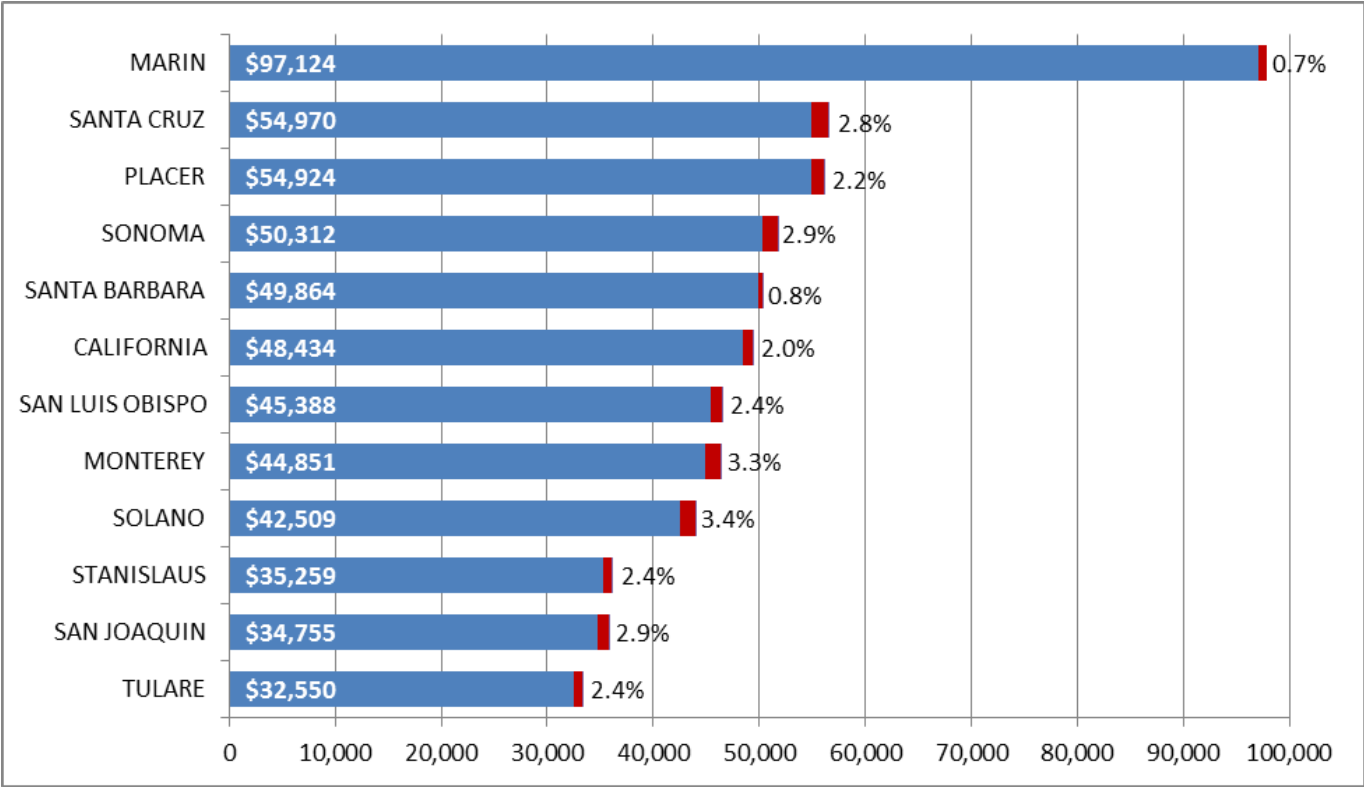
Source: California Employment Development Division. All Others includes Information; Farming; Mining & Logging; and Other Services

Between March 2014 and March 2015, six of the 12 industry sectors in Solano County tracked by the California Employment Development Division showed job growth and six remained unchanged. Overall, civilian employment grew by 1.9%, or 3,600 jobs, between March 2014 and March 2015. Among employers located in Solano County, local industry employment grew by 3.1%, or 3,900 jobs, during the same time period.

Between March 2010 and March 2015, nine of 12 industry sectors showed overall employment growth, while two sectors retracted and one remained unchanged. Overall, civilian employment increased by 8.7%, or 15,200 jobs, between 2010 and 2015. Among employers located in Solano County, local industry employment increased by 10.7%, or 12,700 jobs, during the same time period.

Compared to March 2007, prior to the Great Recession, six local industry sectors showed overall employment growth and account for 8,900 more local industry jobs in those sectors. Those sectors are Farm, 200; Manufacturing, 900; Trade, Transportation & Utilities, 100; Educational and Health Services, 5,500; Leisure & Hospitality, 2,100; and Other Services, 100. Five local industry sectors still lag their pre-recession levels and account for a contraction of 7,900 jobs. Those sectors are Construction, (2,400); Information, (500); Financial Activities, (1,000); Professional & Business Services, (1,900); and Government, (2,100). Overall, civilian employment is down 6,300 jobs and the civilian labor force is down 4,100 in March 2015 compared to March 2007. Among employers located in Solano County, local industry employment increased by 0.8%, or 1,000 jobs, during the same time period.

**Change in Per Capita Income in Benchmark Counties**



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

Personal income is made up of wages and salaries, transfer payments from all levels of government, investment income (dividends, interest, and rents), business income from owning a business (proprietor’s income) and other income sources. The *2014 Index of Economic and Community Progress* reported that since 2009, Solano County has seen a growth in personal income, initially from stock market gains and investment income, and accelerated by wage and salary growth in 2012.

According to the 2013 statistics from the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, Solano County ranks as the fourth lowest in per capita income as compared to benchmark counties. However, Solano County’s growth rate in per capita income in 2013 outpaced the state and benchmark counties, increasing 3.4% between 2012 and 2013. Solano County’s per capita income of \$42,509 in 2013 reflects a \$1,406 increase over 2012. The growth in Solano County’s personal income between 2011 and 2012 was 6.6%, the highest growth rate among comparable counties.

**Solano County Statistical Profile**  
**Birgitta E. Corsello, County Administrator**

**SOLANO COUNTY COMMUTING**

According to the U.S. Census Bureau’s 2011 American Community Survey, approximately 64.5% of working residents in Solano County commuted outside of the county for work. The survey estimated 99,844 residents commuted out of the county for employment – 42.5% to the Bay Area, 9.6% to Sacramento and Yolo counties, and 12.4% for all other locations. At the same time, the survey estimated 56,904 people commuted into Solano County for employment. Nearly 43,000 more people commute out of Solano County for employment than commute in to Solano County for employment.

The 2011 American Community Survey also reported that approximately 77.9% of employed county residents drive alone to work, 13% car pool, 2.1% use public transportation and 7.3% either work at home or use other modes of transportation. Of those who drove alone, 40.3% worked outside of the county. Of those who carpooled, it was split fairly evenly between working inside and outside of the county. Of those who used public transportation, 74.1% worked outside of Solano County.

Solano County residents between the age of 30 and 54 comprised 58% of the people commuting outside of the county for employment and nearly 54% of residents commuting earned more than \$3,333 per month. Approximately 57.4% of the people commuting into Solano County for employment were between the age of 30 and 54 and nearly 51.5% of inbound commuters earned more than \$3,333 per month.

**Commute Patterns of Solano County Residents**

COMMUTE LOCATIONS BY SOLANO RESIDENTS		PERCENTAGE OF SOLANO RESIDENTS BY COMMUTE TIME		COMMUTE MODE OF SOLANO COUNTY	
Solano	35.5%	Less than 10 minutes	12.8%	Drive Alone	77.9%
Contra Costa	13.2%	10 to 14 minutes	16.0%	Carpool	13.0%
Alameda	8.3%	15 to 19 minutes	14.6%	Public Transportation	2.1%
Sacramento	6.9%	20 to 24 minutes	12.0%	Walk	2.1%
San Francisco	6.4%	25 to 29 minutes	5.1%	Taxi, Motorcycle or Bicycle	1.2%
Napa	5.8%	30 to 34 minutes	11.45	Work at Home	3.8%
Santa Clara	3.3%	35 to 44 minutes	6.3%		
San Mateo	2.8%	45 to 59 minutes	8.1%		
Yolo	2.7%	60 or more minutes	13.7%		
Marin	2.6%	Mean Travel Time to Work	28.2 min.		
All Other Locations	12.4%				

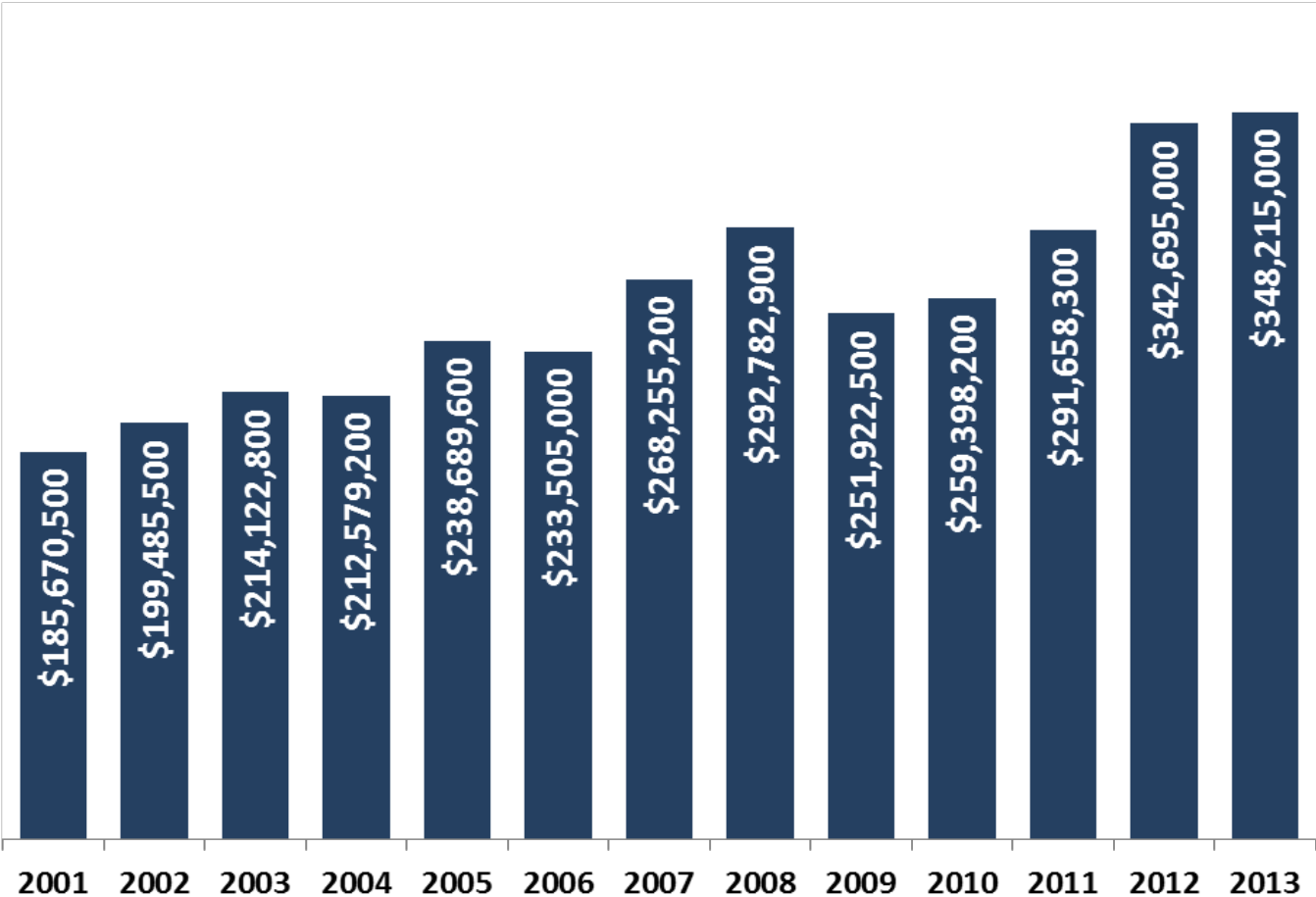
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2011 American Community Survey

**GROSS AGRICULTURAL CROP AND LIVESTOCK VALUE**

The 2013 Solano County's overall agricultural production value increased to \$348.2 million which represents an increase of 1.6% from 2012 value of \$342.7 million and is the highest reported crop value achieved in the reporting history. Walnuts remain the number one crop in 2013 with a total value \$55.4 million, an increase of \$8.6 million when compared to the 2012 values. Cattle and Calves remained second in value at \$35.8 million but showed a loss over 2012 values of just under \$5 million. This is attributable to a return to normal cow-calf operations, after some speculation in feeder calves the previous year. Solano County produces more than 80 different commodities including fruits, nuts, vegetables, grains, seed, nursery stock, livestock, poultry, and apiary.

Agriculture production is part of a larger industry cluster that spans the full spectrum of economic activity from before the crops get into the field to the value-added processing in consumer products. In an analysis of industry clusters in Solano County, the Moving Solano Forward project identified the food chain cluster as supporting nearly 9,500 jobs and \$1.4 billion in economic output in 2012. This cluster represents approximately 9 percent of the county's total economic output.

**2013 Gross Agriculture Crop Values for Solano County**



Source: County of Solano Agricultural Commissioner 2013 Solano County Crop and Livestock Report to the Board of Supervisors on June 10, 2014

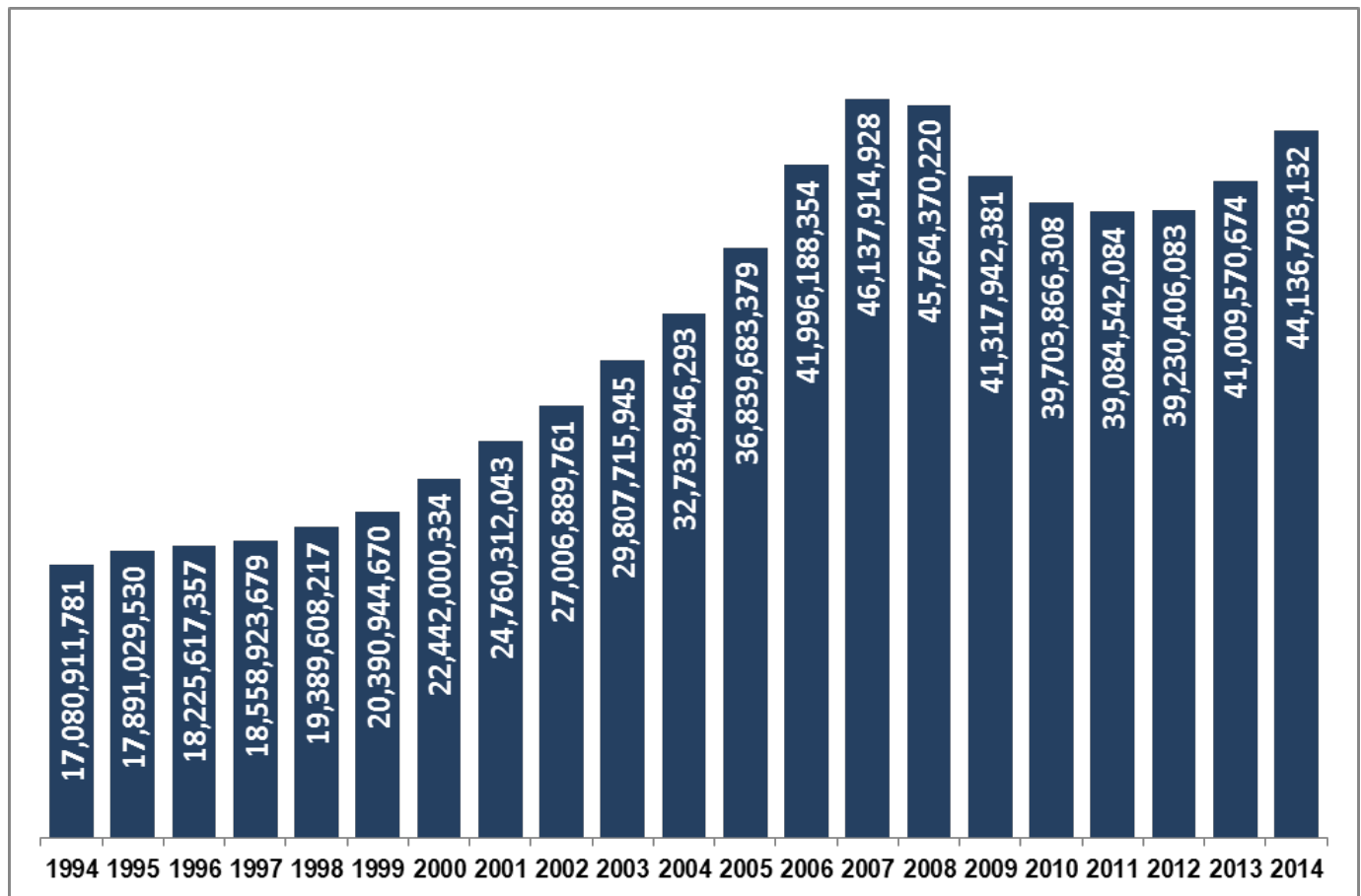
**COUNTY ASSESSED VALUES AND GROWTH**

Property taxes are a major source of local governmental revenues and are determined by assessed values. The property tax rate throughout the State of California is 1% of assessed values. The 2014 Property Assessment Roll (net of Exemptions) of \$44 billion increased 7.6% from the prior year's roll value and represents property ownership in Solano County as of January 1, 2014. This is the second year of increasing assessed values since the bottom of the market in 2011.

The lingering effect of the Great Recession can still be felt on the assessed values of properties in Solano County, which experienced dramatic drops in median home prices and high numbers of foreclosures. The median home price fell from a high of \$475,755 in 2006 to a low of \$191,453 in 2011. The housing market experienced double digit gains in 2013, but industry experts are reporting expectations of more moderate rate of growth in home prices in 2014. The median price for homes in Solano County was \$321,500 in 2014, up 26% from the \$255,750 in 2013, however \$115,600 below California's median home price of \$437,100 recorded in December 2014.

Since the market peak a significant number of properties in Solano County have had their property values temporarily reduced in accordance with Proposition 8. Proposition 8 requires the Assessor to value property at the lesser of the market value or the factored base year value, also known as the Proposition 13 value. The 2014 property assessment roll reflects 30,612 properties with reduced property value assessments and represents 21% of the residential and non-residential parcels in the county. The number of properties in Proposition 8 status in 2014 declined 44.8% from the nearly 78,000 properties in 2012.

**Local Assessed Values for Solano County**



Source: County of Solano, Assessor's Office, July 2013



**PRINCIPAL PROPERTY TAX PAYERS**

<b>COUNTY OF SOLANO</b>			
<b>Principal Taxpayers with over \$50,000,000 in Assessed Value for FY2014/15</b>			
<b>Principal Property Tax Payers</b>	<b>Business Type</b>	<b>Assessed Value (\$)</b>	<b>Tax Obligation (\$) <sup>1</sup></b>
GENENTECH INC	MANUFACTURING	978,376,669	11,379,349
VALERO REFINING COMPANY	ENERGY	957,468,957	11,606,662
PACIFIC GAS & ELECTRIC CO	UTILITY	574,216,476	8,234,954
SHILOH WIND PROJECT II LLC	ENERGY	259,314,920	2,785,302
ANHEUSER BUSCH INC	MANUFACTURING	256,704,332	2,941,771
SOLANO 3 WIND LLC	ENERGY	244,406,651	2,625,172
ALZA CORPORATION	MANUFACTURING	237,792,006	2,738,436
SHILOH III WIND PROJECT	ENERGY	205,716,183	2,209,598
STAR-WEST SOLANO LLC	REITS & FINANCE	173,699,526	1,966,565
SHILOH IV WIND PROJECT LLC	ENERGY	151,810,590	1,630,598
SHILOH I WIND PROJECT LLC	ENERGY	140,703,532	1,511,297
CALIFORNIA NORTHERN RAILROAD	TRANSPORTATION	126,774,676	1,560,273
ICON OWNER POOL 1 SF N-B P LLC	MANUFACTURING	120,732,249	1,467,043
HIGH WIND LLC	ENERGY	112,793,335	1,211,513
PACIFIC BELL TELEPHONE CO	UTILITY	108,412,893	1,478,043
NETXERA ENERGY	ENERGY	107,368,512	1,153,245
CPG FINANCE II LLC	COMMERCIAL SALES & SERVICE	100,115,583	1,195,549
MEYER COOKWARE INDUSTRIES INC	DISTRIBUTION/MANUFACTURING	90,388,659	1,053,795
NT DUNHILL I LLC	REAL ESTATE	90,308,371	1,237,002
CENTRO WATT PROPERTY OWNER II	COMMERCIAL SALES & SERVICE	76,169,562	925,089
PARK MANAGEMENT CORP	THEME PARK	76,012,183	916,715
NOVARTIS ANIMAL HEALTH US INC	MANUFACTURING	71,184,085	851,134
SFPP L P	ENERGY	69,312,614	877,016
KAISER FOUNDATION HOSPITALS	MEDICAL	67,886,062	829,386
BALL METAL BEVERAGE CONT CORP	MANUFACTURING	62,947,626	679,375
LODI GAS STORAGE LLC	ENERGY	59,060,229	847,042
PRIME ASCOT LP	REAL ESTATE	57,333,294	727,265
WAL-MART REAL ESTATE BUS TRUST	REAL ESTATE	56,907,947	650,734
SEQUOIA EQUITIES-RIVER OAKS	REAL ESTATE	53,886,143	677,633
6801 LEISURE TOWN ROAD APT INV	REAL ESTATE	53,452,502	613,432
N/A ROLLING OAKS-88 LP	REAL ESTATE	53,252,162	613,719
STATE COMPENSATION INSRN FUND	GOVERNMENT	51,197,200	640,337

<sup>1</sup>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

Source: County of Solano, Tax Collector/County Clerk, March 2015

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