



Quality of Life Benchmarks Report 2001



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The **Quality of Life Benchmarks Report 2001** could not be produced and distributed without the help of numerous people. This publication was assembled by the Social Services Agency (SSA) under the general direction of Tracy Salkowitz, Director of Planning, and Rick Edwards, Director of Data Management. Their staff worked tirelessly in collecting, analyzing, compiling and organizing the data. We would like to specifically acknowledge the contributions of David Rees, Sydelle Raffé and James Cunniff.

Alameda County Quality of Life Benchmarks Report: 2001

SNAPSHOT

❖ DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE

- Steady growth in the County continues (12.9% between 1990 and 2000).
- Growth was smallest in North County (4.2%) and greatest in the Valley cities of Dublin, Pleasanton and Livermore (28%).
- Both Whites and African Americans have decreased as a proportion of the population between 1990 and 2000.
- Only in the Valley region and (barely) in Central County are Whites more than one-half of the population (71% and 51% respectively).
- Those aged 75 and older comprised the fastest growing age group (27% between 1990 and 2000); the next fastest growing age group was those aged 5 through 17 (24%).
- Those aged 75 and over increased more in the Tri-Cities and Valley regions.

2000

% of the population who are:

White	48.8%
Asian/Pacific Islander	20.4%
Latino	19.0%
African American	14.9%
More than 1 race	5.6%
Native American	< 1%

% of the population by age group:

0 – 4	6.8%
5 – 17	17.7%
18 – 59	61.9%
60 +	13.5%

❖ EDUCATION INDICATORS

- ▲ Decline in drop out rate 28.3% (91/92–99/00)
- ▲ Decline in drop out rates for all racial and ethnic groups (91/92–99/00)

Academic Year 99/00
% of enrolled students who
dropped out by race/

African-American	4.4%
Latino	3.3%
Asian/PI	1.8%
White	1.0%

- ▲ 11th grade Stanford 9 test scores continue to rise

▼ Stanford 9 Scores are dramatically worse in areas which are economically disadvantaged and racially diverse.

- ▲ In 2000, more people 25 and over have a HS Diploma/GED than in 1990.

- ▲ In Oakland and in Alameda County, more than one-third of adults age 25+ have a Bachelor's or more advanced degree.

❖ ECONOMIC INDICATORS

1990–2000

- ▲ In the County, average household income continues to increase (\$82,500 in 2000).
- ▲ More public assistance clients are working.
- ▲ Fewer people live below the average Federal Poverty Threshold (\$17,029 in 1999).

% of Adult population receiving Cal-WORKs (2000) 1.2%

% of Child population receiving Cal-WORKs (2000) 10.1%

% of population receiving GA (2000) .2%

- ▼ The unemployment rate rose through most of 2001 and is worse for minorities and those without HS/GED.

- ▼ There is continued income inequality by income level, race and gender.

- ▲ Median housing prices in the County rose 31% between 1999 and 2001; in Central County they rose by 46%.

- ▲ Fair market rent for a 2 BR apartment was \$1,243 in 2002, a rise of 49% since 1993.

- ▼ In 1998, it was estimated that almost half the County population had household incomes below \$40,000, less than County specific estimated basic budgets for single parent families.

❖ SAFETY INDICATORS

- ▲ The crime rate has continuously declined in the State and the County for the past 10 years.

- ▼ The 2000 crime rate for the North County region is higher than the State as well as higher than the rest of the County.

- ▲ The rate of children in foster care in Alameda County may be leveling off after increasing since 1992.

- ▲ Fewer children were killed by violence in 2001 than in any of the previous 7 years.

- ▲ The 2000 rate of drug related felony arrests in the County was at it lowest point in 10 years (5.1 per 1000 population).

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction	1-4
Demographic Profile	5-10
Percent Population Change: Nation, State, County (1990 — 2000)	5
Percent Population Change by County Region (1990 — 2000)	6
Multi-Racial Identification in 2000: Nation, State, County (1990 — 2000)	7
Ethnic/Racial Groups as a Percent of the Population by County Region (1990—2000)	8
Percent Population Change by Age Group (1990 — 2000)	9
Age Groups as a Percent of the Total County Population (1990—2000)	9
Percent Change in Age Groups by County Region (1990 — 2000)	10
Education Indicators	11-16
High School Dropout Rate by Ethnicity (1991/1992 - 1999 — 2000)	12
11th Grade Students Stanford 9 STAR Test Performance (1998 — 2001)	13
11th Grade Students Stanford 9 STAR Test Performance by High School and County Region (2001)	14
11th Grade Students Academic Performance Index (API) Scores by High School and County Region (2001)	15
Percent of Population 25 and Older with a HS Diploma/GED: Nation, State, County and City of Oakland (1990 — 2000)	16
Economic Indicators	17-29
Percent of People Living Below the Federal Poverty Threshold (1990 — 1999)	18
Average Household Income and Percent Change by County Region (1990 — 2000)	19
Income Inequality by Gender: Median Earnings (2000)	19
Percent Income Change for California Families (Late 1980's and Late 1990's)	20
Alameda County CalWORKs Recipients (1991—2000)	21

Economic Indicators (continued)

Earnings, Welfare Income and the Poverty Threshold: National Data (1993-2000)	22
General Assistance Recipients (1991 — 2000)	23
Hunger in Alameda County	24
Homelessness in Alameda County	25
Annual Unemployment Rate (1991—2001)	26
Monthly Unemployment Rate (2001)	26
Regional Housing Needs by Household Income Level (1999—2006)	27
Median Housing Prices and Percent Change by County Region (1999—2001)	28
Home Ownership by Race: State of California (1999)	28
Fair Market Rent for 2 Bedroom Units: Oakland Metropolitan Statistical Area (1993—2002)	29
Safety Indicators	31-37
Crime Rates by County Region (1991 — 2000)	32
Drug Related Felony Arrests (1991 — 2000)	33
Domestic Violence Calls by County Region (1991 — 2000)	34
Juveniles Referred to Probation (1991—2000)	35
Foster Care Population (1992—2001)	36
Child Abuse Case Openings (1998—2001)	37
Youth Deaths (1994—2001)	37
Appendix A: CalWORKs Research Projects	39-42
Appendix B: End Notes	43-44

Introduction

The report presents current and historical information on a selected set of indicators in the areas of education, economics, and safety. These Benchmark indicators provide a *general sense* of how Alameda County residents are doing and whether their quality of life is improving or deteriorating over time.

The mission of Alameda County Social Services Agency (SSA) is to promote the economic and social well being of individuals, families, neighborhoods, and communities. An analysis of quality of life indicators can help guide performance planning at the Agency level. This information can answer questions as to how can we enhance our activities which affect those indicators that are moving in a positive direction. Conversely, the information can show how we can turn around the results when the indicators are heading in the wrong direction. This approach enables our service delivery to be consistent with shifting trends in social welfare policy and service delivery. The report relies on information developed from studies and surveys conducted by several Alameda County departments, various City agencies, and State and Federal offices.

New This Year

As each year's report is developed, we (SSA along with County partners) strive to improve the selection of indicators, obtain data from new sources, obtain corrected historical data, and present data in new and more comprehensive ways.

- This year we do not include a section on Health of the population. We refer you instead to the County Department of Public Health web site (<http://www.co.alameda.ca.us/publichealth/>) where you will find numerous reports including

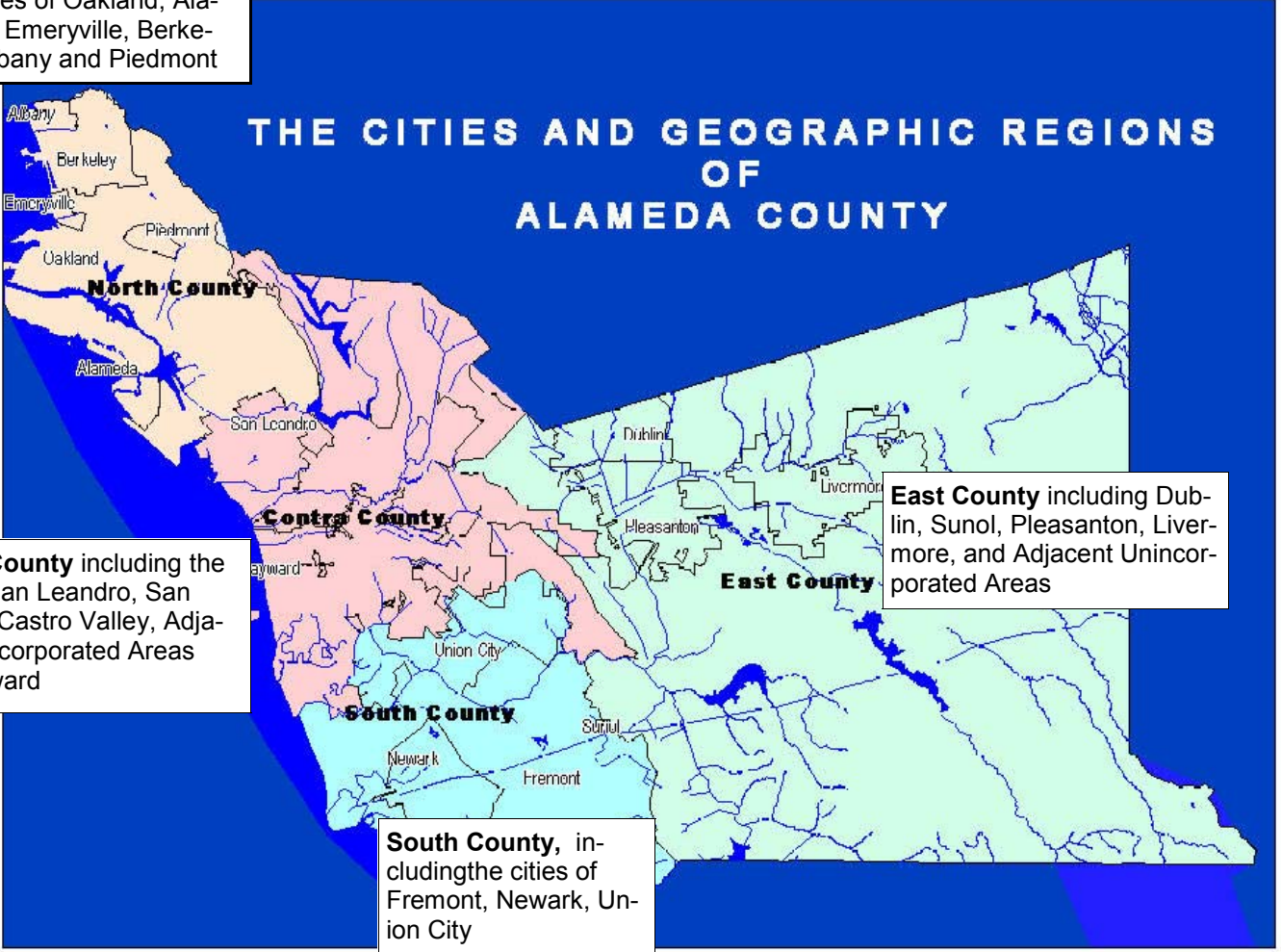
By the Numbers: A Public Health Dataview of Oakland;

a series of Neighborhood Profiles; and,

the Alameda County Health Status Report 2000.

- This year, we worked closely with Alameda County Supervisor Gail Steele and the Alameda Child Death Review Committee so that we could present information about the premature deaths of children by violence in the county.
- To the extent possible, we took advantage of available Census 1990 and Census 2000 data as well as information from the Census 2000 Supplementary Survey. A number of tables present change between 1990 and 2000 based on census counts and estimations.
- This year's report is organized by four County regions shown on the following page.

North County including the cities of Oakland, Alameda, Emeryville, Berkeley, Albany and Piedmont



Central County including the cities of San Leandro, San Lorenzo, Castro Valley, Adjacent Unincorporated Areas and Hayward

South County, including the cities of Fremont, Newark, Union City

East County including Dublin, Sunol, Pleasanton, Livermore, and Adjacent Unincorporated Areas

Selection of Benchmark Indicators

Most of the indicators presented in all the Benchmarks reports were selected by representatives from the Board of Supervisors, SSA, the Probation Department, the Alameda County Sheriff's Department, the Public Health Department, and community groups.

The indicators were chosen because they best met the following essential characteristics:

- valid and reliable at the county level, city or lower level
- available with minimal lag time

Desirable characteristics of indicator data included:

- regularly available, e.g., at least annually
- available for ethnic subgroups or vulnerable populations
- available for the City, County, State, and Nation
- available for as many as 10 years

The validity of indicators is especially important — are we really measuring what we think we are? For example, we want to measure whether public safety is improving or getting worse. If we use the rate of arrests as an indicator, we *could* be measuring public safety. But, we could also be measuring an increase in arrests resulting from hiring 20 new police officers. We want to measure the actual behavior, the crimes themselves. Unfortunately, some of the indicators in this report are non-ideal measures.

Presentation and Interpretation of Information

Information for each Benchmark indicator is presented in graphs as well as in data tables. Some people prefer a visual presentation while others prefer to look at numbers in a table. The two types of presentation also present different information.

The data tables contain raw numbers of the events as well as population figures used to create the indicator rate. Raw numbers provide a measure of the extent of a problem; of how many in the population are affected, experience an event, or have a characteristic.

The *rate* of an indicator expresses the number of people experiencing an event or having a characteristic in terms of the size of the population. In this report we usually use the number per each 1000 people in the relevant population.

Using rates avoids the problem of misinterpreting increases or decreases in the *absolute magnitude* of a problem. The numeric change may only reflect an increase or decrease in the size of the population. The absolute number may be different, but the rate with which it occurs may not have changed. It's also important to recognize that a rate which changes dramatically may not mean much in terms of numbers. This is because rates change more dramatically if the number to begin with is small. For example, if a town added 2 more people to its existing population of 4, their population increased by 50%; those same 2 people added to a town with a population of 50 would represent an increase of only 4%. Both types of information are important.

Our reason for presenting multiple years of data, is to observe change. To observe what kind of trend exists, you need a sufficient number of data points, preferably 10 years. Having too few data points may present a sharp change in direction which, when viewed over a longer time period, is clearly part of an ongoing pattern and not a shift at all.

Benchmark indicator notes are included to help define terms and describe limitations of the data. Commentary on how the specific Benchmark indicator might affect Quality of Life and a brief comment on any trends observed are also provided.

Where appropriate and available, information on the same indicators for the State and for the Nation are also presented. With that data, comparisons of how Alameda County is doing relative to the State and the Nation can be made.

C *Calculating Rates and Percent Change Over Time*

All rates in this report were calculated using the following method (the number of TANF cases per 1000 population is just an example):

START	➡	➡	➡	➡	END
	DATA	CALCULATE	ANSWER	CALCULATE	ANSWER
Number of TANF Adults	13,211	Divide the number of cases (13,211) by the population (1,089,169):	13,211 / 1,089,169 = .0121	Multiply the answer by 1000:	.0121*1000 = 12.1 TANF adults per 1000 adult population
Alameda County Adult Population	1,089,169				

To calculate the percent change in an indicator over time (again, this is just an example):

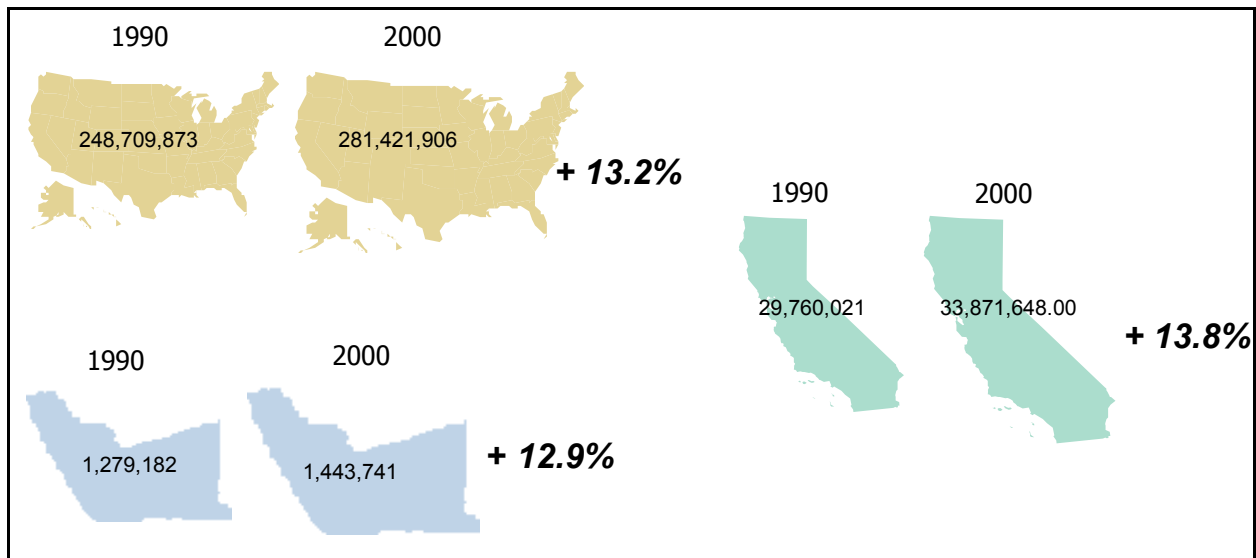
START	➡	➡	➡	➡	END
	DATA	CALCULATE	ANSWER	CALCULATE	ANSWER
Number of children aged 0 – 4 (2000)	98,378	Subtract the earlier year (95,932) from the later year (98,378)	98,378 – 95,932 = 2446	Divide the answer (2446) by the earlier year (c)	2446/95,932 = .0254 Or, 2.5 percent growth between 1990 and 2000
Number of children aged 0 – 4 (1990)	95,932				

DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE

About the profile . . .

In this section we describe the number of people in Alameda County, their age, and their race/ethnicity. This year we look at a ten year trend by using actual counts from the 1990 and the 2000 census. These numbers provide a context for understanding the immense diversity and changes occurring in Alameda County. Appendix C provides more detail about how these population figures are used in the report.¹

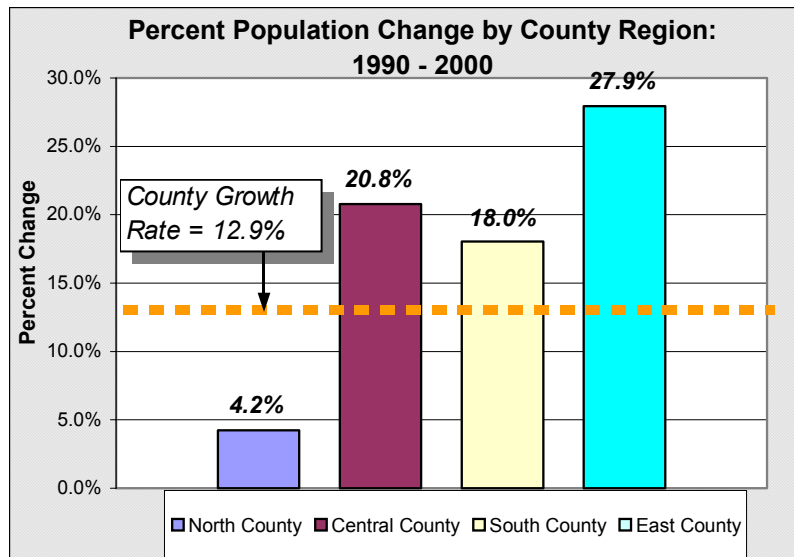
Percent Population Change: 1990—2000 United States, California and Alameda County



Highlights

- The maps above represent growth in the overall population of the Nation, the State and the County. There has been steady growth in the overall population (12.9% since 1990). Growth in the State and the Nation was slightly greater (13.8% and 13.2% respectively).
- Population growth has been comprised primarily of increases in the numbers of Asian/Pacific Islanders and Hispanics. In the county, both Whites and African-Americans have declined in population since 1990. In 2000, there was no majority racial group at the County level — Whites comprised about 49% of the population, African-Americans 15% and Asian/Pacific Islanders 20% in 2000. Hispanics (of any race) comprised 19% of the County population in 2000.
- Growth varied by County region. North County grew by only 4.2%, while the East County cities grew by 28%. The East County region stands out as being the least ethnically and racially diversified.
- Hispanics (of any race) grew in numbers and as a proportion of the overall population. The Hispanic population grew most in Central County and in the East County.
- Those aged 75 or older comprised the fastest growing age group (by 27% growth), followed by a 24% growth of those in the 5 to 17 age group. Growth of those over age 75 was highest in South County and East County.

Percent Population Change 1990—2000: By County Region



North County	1990	2000	% Change
Alameda	76,459	72,259	-5.5%
Albany	16,327	16,444	0.7%
Berkeley	102,721	102,743	0.0%
Emeryville	5,740	6,882	19.9%
Oakland	372,242	399,484	7.3%
Piedmont	10,602	10,952	3.3%
Total	584,091	608,764	4.2%

Central County	1990	2000	% Change
Castro Valley	48,619	57,292	17.8%
Hayward	111,498	140,030	25.6%
San Leandro	68,223	79,452	16.5%
San Lorenzo	19,987	21,898	9.6%
Ashland CDP	16,590	20,793	25.3%
Cherryland CDP	11,088	13,837	24.8%
Total	276,005	333,302	20.8%

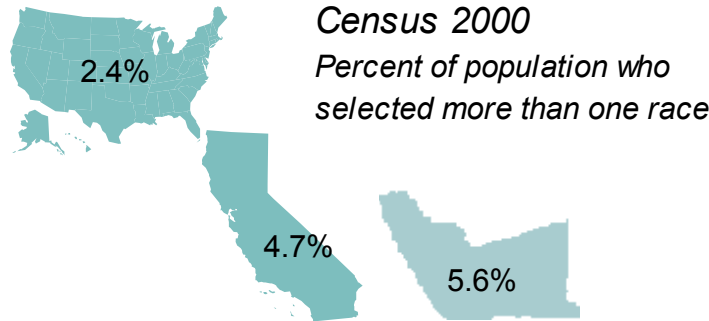
South County	1990	2000	% Change
Fremont	173,339	203,413	17.3%
Newark	37,861	42,471	12.2%
Union City	53,762	66,869	24.4%
Total	264,962	312,753	18.0%

East County	1990	2000	% Change
Dublin	23,229	29,973	29.0%
Sunol	---	1,332	---
Pleasanton	50,533	63,654	26.0%
Livermore	56,741	73,345	29.3%
Total	130,503	166,972	27.9%

While overall County growth is somewhat less than growth in the State and Nation, growth varies by area of the County. The chart above depicts the small gains in population in North County which includes the major urban center of Oakland. More growth is observed in the less urban areas of the county, especially in East County towns which include Dublin and Pleasanton.

Multi-Racial Identification in 2000: Nation, State and Alameda County

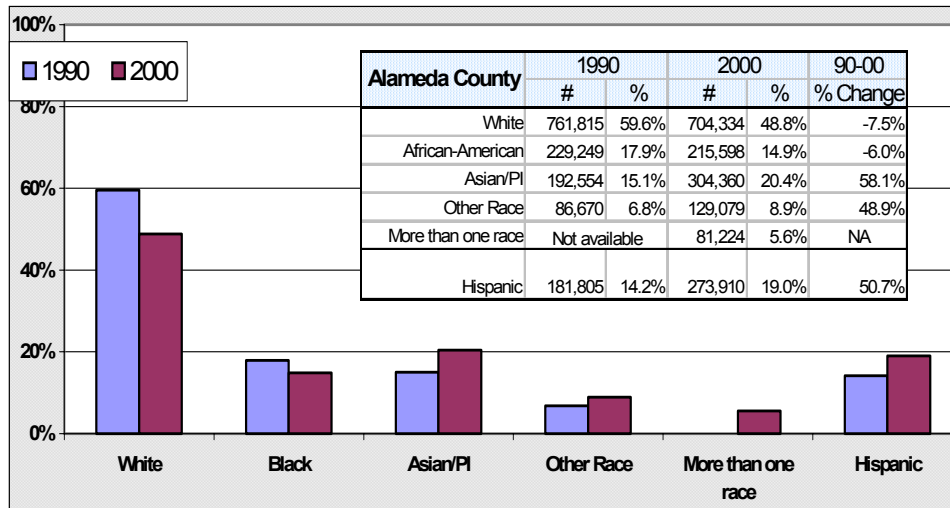
For the first time, the 2000 Census gave people the opportunity to identify themselves with more than one racial category. It is no surprise that residents of Alameda County were more than twice as likely as the country to select more than one race to describe themselves.



The highest concentration of people who selected more than one race was in Hayward (7.5%), followed by Ashland (7.4%) and Newark (7.1%). The lowest concentration of people who selected more than one race was in Piedmont (3.4%) and Dublin (3.9%).

Ethnic/Racial Composition of Alameda County in 1990 and 2000

In addition to allowing people to mark more than one race, the Census also had a separate question which asked “Is this person Spanish/Hispanic/Latino?” The government considers race and Hispanic origin to be two separate and distinct concepts — Hispanics may be of any race. Because the definition and questions changed in 2000, we need to use some caution when comparing 1990 to 2000.



Over these 10 years, the proportion of whites and African Americans in the county has decreased while the proportion of Asian/Pacific Islanders, other races and Hispanics have increased.

In 2000, Whites comprise less than one-half the population and no group comprises a majority.

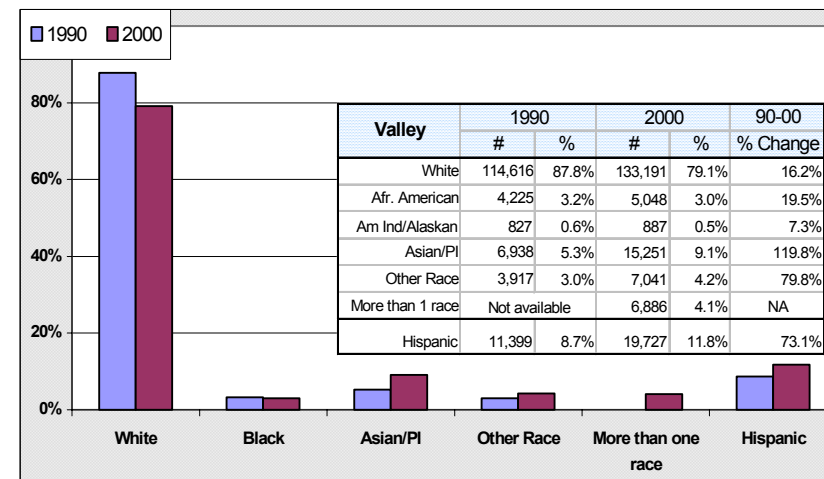
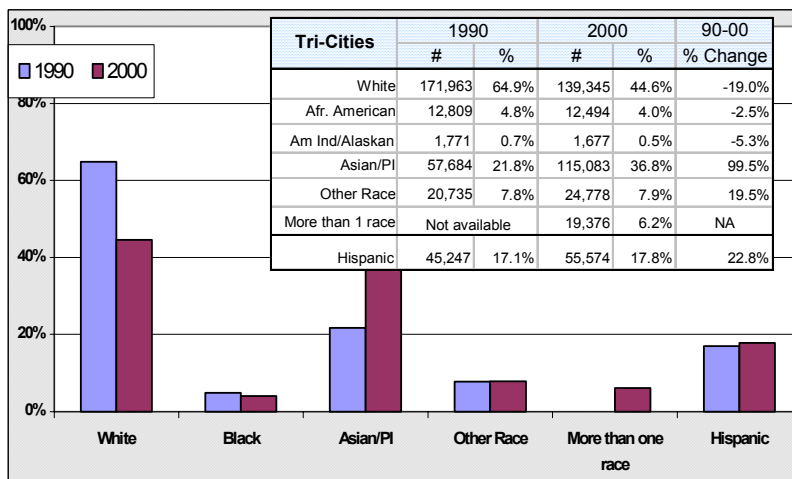
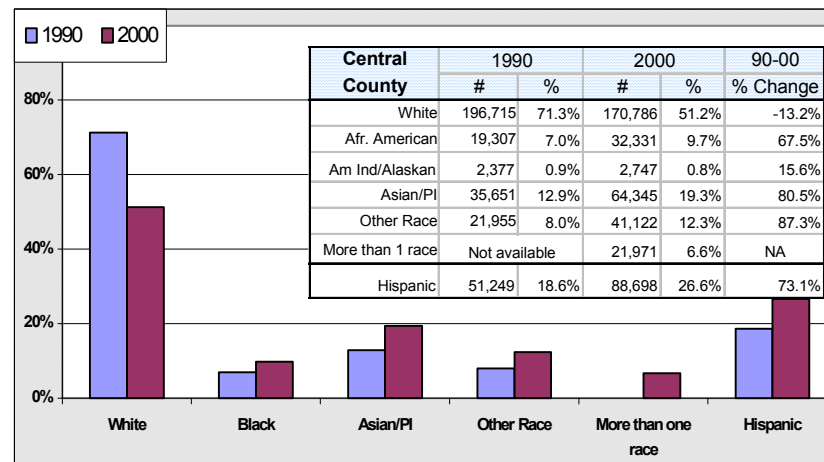
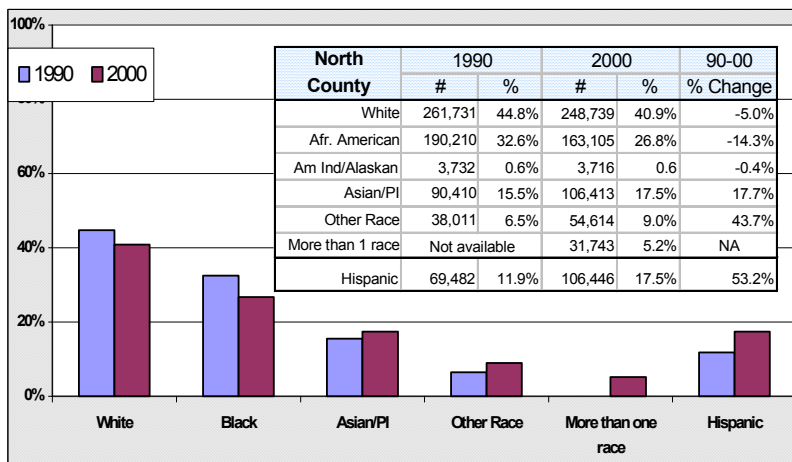
Part of the reduction in the number of African-Americans and Whites in 2000 is likely due to people selecting “more than one ethnicity.” In 2000, 5.6% of the county population chose this option.

Just as the four County areas experienced different patterns of total population change, the four County areas also experienced varied changes in racial composition over the years (see the next page):

Note: The 1990 question about Hispanic origin was also in the 1990 census though in a different place on the questionnaire.

Source: U.S. Census, American Factfinder, <http://factfinder.census.gov>

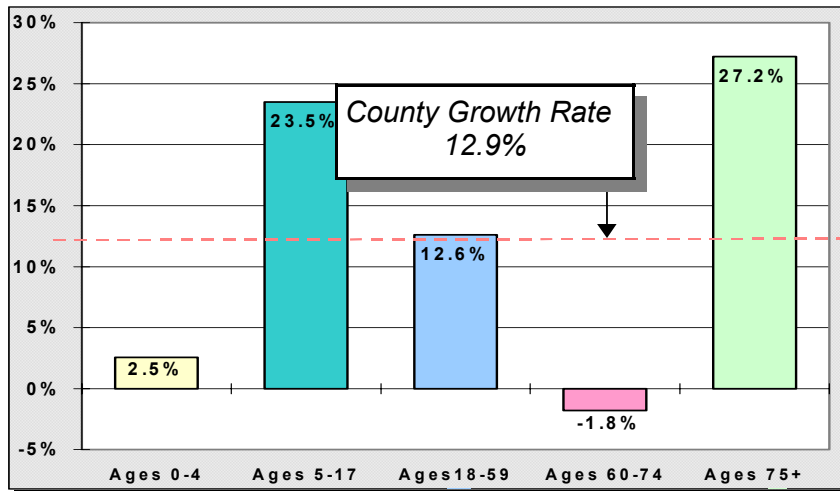
Ethnic/Racial Groups as a Percent of the Population by County Region: 1990 and 2000



The White population decreased in all four regions over time but remains a majority of the population in East County (79%) and Central County (51%). However, in South County and North County, there is no majority racial group as is true for the County as a whole. Only in North County in 2000, are African-Americans the next most populous group (27%) after Whites (41%). In the other areas, Asians are the next most populous group after Whites — 19% in Central County; 37% in South County; and, 9% in East Valley.

The Hispanic population grew in all parts of the County between 1990 and 2000. Both Central County and East County increased their Hispanic populations by 73%. North County had an increase of 53%. In South County, the percent change was only 23%.

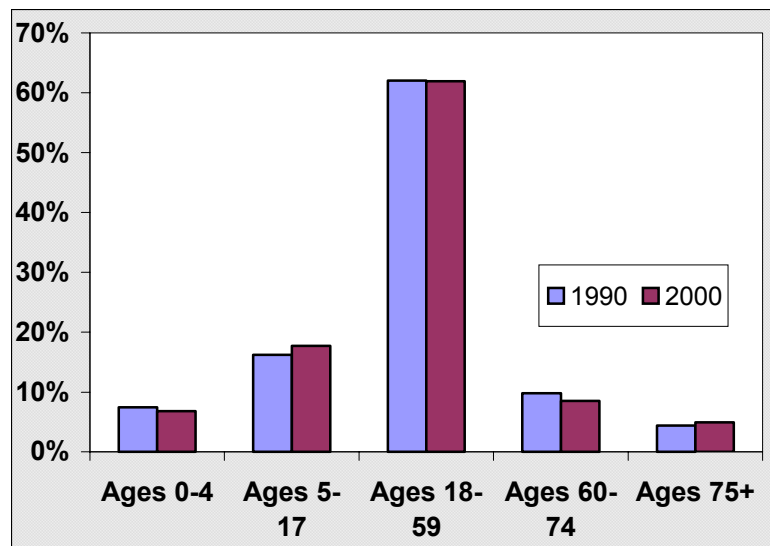
Percent Population Change by Age Group: 1990-2000



ALAMEDA COUNTY	Ages 0-4	Ages 5-17	Ages 18-59	Ages 60-74	Ages 75+	Total
1990	95,932	207,473	793,679	125,589	56,509	1,279,182
2000	98,378	256,194	893,920	123,327	71,892	1,443,711
% Population change	2.5%	23.5%	12.6%	-1.8%	27.2%	12.9%

The different growth rates of age groups in Alameda County are depicted in the above graph. Children aged 0-4 made only a 2.5% contribution to growth; the age group 60-74 declined by a small amount. We see the largest increases among those 75 and older and those 18-59.

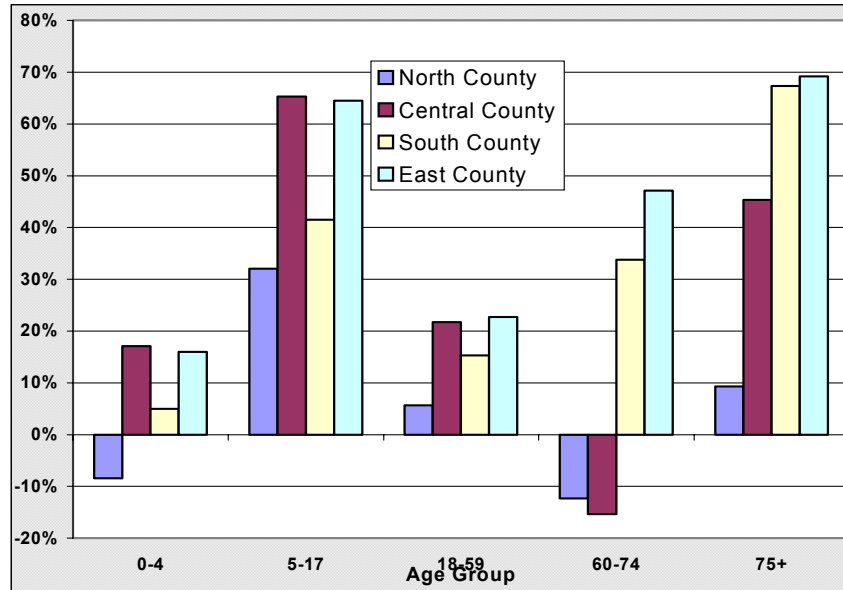
Age Groups as a Percent of the Total County Population: 1990 and 2000



Age group as a % of the population	Ages 0-4	Ages 5-17	Ages 18-59	Ages 60-74	Ages 75+
1990	7.5%	16.2%	62.0%	9.8%	4.4%
2000	6.8%	17.7%	61.9%	8.5%	5.0%

Overall, the age distribution of the county has changed little in the 10 years between 1990 and 2000. More striking differences can be observed in the 4 county areas depicted on the next page.

Percent Change in Age Groups by County Region: 1990—2000



County Region	0-4	5-17	18-59	60-74	75+
North County	-8.4%	32.0%	5.7%	-12.3%	9.3%
Central County	17.1%	65.3%	21.8%	-15.4%	45.3%
South County	5.0%	41.5%	15.3%	33.8%	67.3%
East County	16.0%	64.5%	22.7%	47.2%	69.2%

The age group which grew the most over these 10 years are those 75 or older — especially in South County and East County. This group increased the least in North County.

Numbers in Selected Age groups by County Region

	1990					2000				
	0-4	5-17	18-59	60-64	75+	0-4	5-17	18-59	60-64	75+
North County	42,987	77,252	377,777	62,913	33,100	39,364	101,988	399,224	55,182	36,177
Central County	20,256	36,417	161,042	37,103	15,060	23,714	60,191	196,102	31,403	21,889
South County	21,968	42,059	168,092	19,229	6,349	23,069	59,520	193,814	25,725	10,625
East County	10,145	20,122	85,705	8,157	2,916	11,767	33,107	105,160	12,005	4,933

The 75 and older group has the largest growth rate in Tri-Cities and the Valley, but their numbers are still relatively small — but growing.

Source: U.S. Census, American Factfinder, <http://factfinder.census.gov>

EDUCATION INDICATORS

A *bout the Indicators . . .*

Academic achievement is one measure of how well prepared our students are for future employment, higher education, and long term self-sufficiency. Individuals who do not finish high school are more likely to have limited opportunities for acquiring a higher education, employment, and a living wage required for self-sufficiency.

We have included education indicators at the county, school district and individual high school level. Much of it is organized by county region.

The use of standardized testing for educational achievement has always been controversial and commonly elicits responses of cultural, language, or some other kind of bias. However, some measure is needed that allows for (1) comparisons among schools with similar characteristics; (2) comparisons between students at a particular grade level with their counterparts nationally; and (3) comparisons over time. For this report, we present scores from California's Stanford 9 exam, 1998 through 2001. Academic Performance Index (API) scores, based in part on the Stanford scores, have been included for 2001.¹

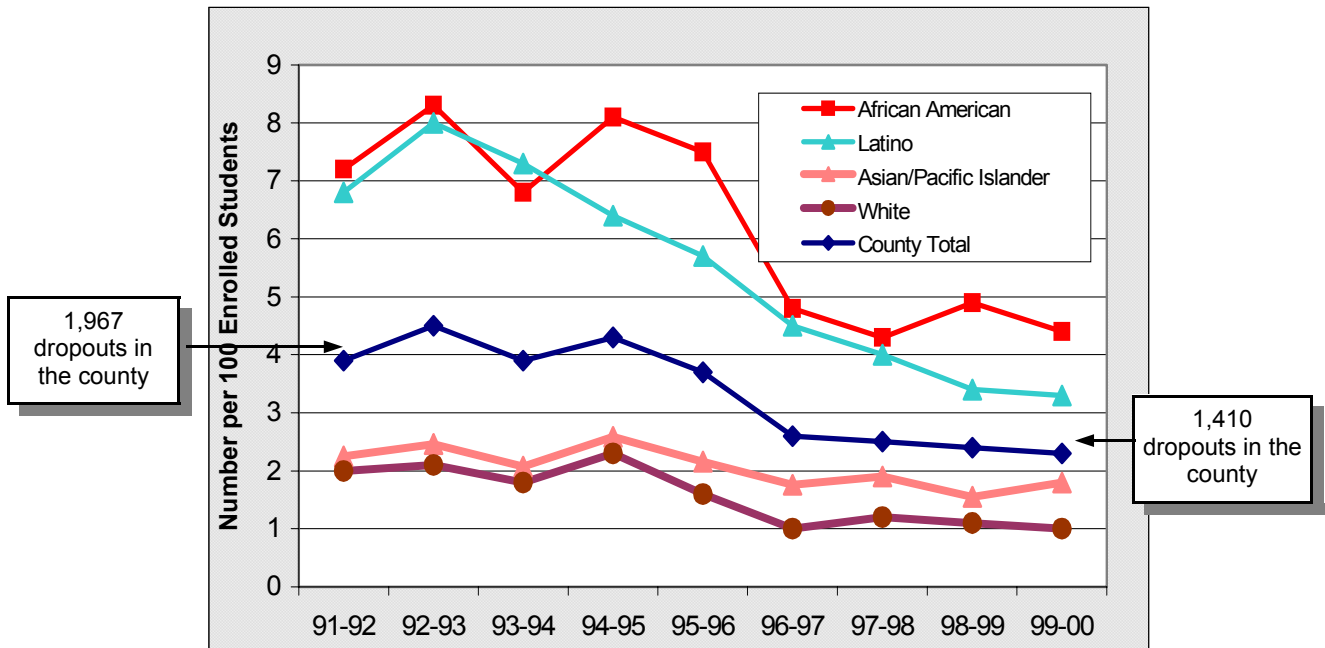
We also track high school dropout rates by race/ethnicity over time. As academic achievement is closely correlated with demographic factors such as family income and race/ethnicity², we also present data on the racial/ethnic composition of 15 school districts with high schools in the County. Finally, we have added data on the educational attainment for those over 25 from the 1990 and 2000 Census.

H *ighlights*

- Since 1998 there has continued to be a relatively small improvement in the percent of all eleventh graders who score at or above the national average (50th percentile) on reading, math and language skills tests. In reading, 11th graders in Alameda County remain below the national average; in math, they score above the national average.
- When looking at individual high schools, one notices significant differences between the generally higher scores in the more affluent, and predominantly White areas and the generally lower scores in lower income, racially diverse areas.
- Between 1990 and 2000, there has been a slight improvement in the proportion of those 25 and older who have high school diplomas or GED's; more striking is the increase of those with Bachelor's degrees or higher. In 2000, it's estimated that one-third or more of the population in the County and in the city of Oakland has an advanced degree beyond college
- As noted in last year's report, there has been a gradual decline in the rate of high school dropouts over the past ten years. African Americans and Latinos experienced the most significant decreases. Despite these improvements, African Americans and Latinos continue to have higher dropout rates than other racial/ethnic groups.

¹In fact, the state Board of Education has already selected a new standardized test to replace the Stanford 9 exam. It's called the California Achievement Test, 6th Edition.

High School Dropout Rate Number of Dropouts per 100 enrolled by Ethnicity



Number of Dropouts by Ethnicity and Year

	91-92	92-93	93-94	94-95	95-96	96-97	97-98	98-99	99-00
African American	775	943	782	941	868	574	525	579	518
Latino	536	669	628	573	542	461	424	380	394
Asian/Pacific Islander	229	253	224	290	257	224	253	219	263
White	415	434	369	465	322	215	248	234	215
Native American	12	10	35	11	16	8	8	11	10
County Total	1,967	2,309	2,038	2,280	2,005	1,482	1,471	1,437	1,410

Number of Dropouts per 100 Enrolled Students

	91-92	92-93	93-94	94-95	95-96	96-97	97-98	98-99	99-00
African American	7.2	8.3	6.8	8.1	7.5	4.8	4.3	4.9	4.4
Latino	6.8	8.0	7.3	6.4	5.7	4.5	4.0	3.4	3.3
Asian/Pacific Islander	2.3	2.5	2.1	2.6	2.2	1.8	1.9	1.6	1.8
White	2.0	2.1	1.8	2.3	1.6	1.0	1.2	1.1	1.0
Native American	3.4	3.2	11.4	3.4	4.8	2.2	2.0	2.6	2.5
County Total	3.9	4.5	3.9	4.3	3.7	2.6	2.5	2.4	2.3

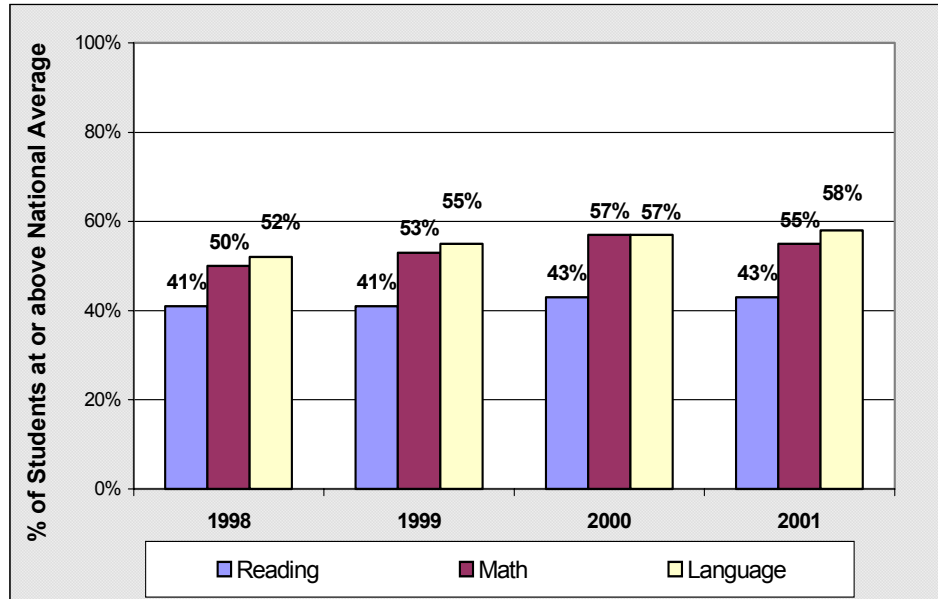
Alameda County	91-92	92-93	93-94	94-95	95-96	96-97	97-98	98-99	99-00
Number of H.S. Dropouts	1,967	2,309	2,038	2,280	2,005	1,482	1,471	1,437	1,410
Number of Students	50,283	51,090	51,703	52,531	53,929	56,079	57,918	59,742	60,821
Rate Per 1,000	39	45	39	43	37	26	25	24	23

There are multiple ways to measure high school drop outs. We chose the 'one Year Rate' calculated as (number of dropouts in grades 9—12/grade 9—12 enrollment) *100.

There has been an overall 28.3% decline in the high school dropout rate in Alameda County between 1991-92 and 1999-2000. The long term trend depicts reduced dropout rates for all racial and ethnic groups. Despite the reductions, in school year 99-00, the African-American dropout rate is over four times higher than that for Whites; the rate for Latinos is over 3 times that of Whites.

Source: California Department of Education
<http://data1.cde.ca.gov/dataquest/>

Percentage of all 11th Grade Students Scoring at or Above the National Average
on the Stanford 9 STAR Test:
1998-2001



In 1997, California authorized the California Standardized Testing and Reporting (STAR) program which requires that each school district administer multiple-choice achievement tests to all pupils in grades 2 -11 each spring. The chart above shows that more than half of Alameda County 11th graders scored better than the national average in Math and Language; less than half of those tested were at or above the national average score in Reading.

In 2000-2001, the scores for the county are better than those for the state. Statewide, the percent of students performing at or above the national average in Reading was only 37%; in Math, 46% and in Language 49%.

Student performance in Alameda County varies widely by high school. The tables on the next page depict the percent of 11th graders performing at or above the national average in each high school in the county. The high schools are grouped into the four county regions.

NOTE: Demographics factored into this are pupil ethnicity, socioeconomic status, percent of teachers with credentials, average class size, and percent of pupils who are Limited English Proficient.

Source: California Department of Education

Percentage of all 11th Grade Students Scoring at or Above
the National Average on the
Stanford 9 STAR Test: by High School and County Region
2001

North County	District	Reading	Math	Language
Alameda	Alameda	53	62	64
Encinal		37	48	54
Albany	Albany	60	74	71
Berkeley	Berkeley	55	69	68
Emery	Emeryville	24	14	22
Castlemont	Oakland	9	26	12
Fremont		9	26	22
McClymonds		3	7	7
Oakland		23	49	44
Oakland Technical		28	38	39
Skyline		35	46	48
Piedmont		Piedmont	86	88

Central County	District	Reading	Math	Language
Castro Valley	Castro Valley	54	65	66
Hayward	Hayward	28	44	46
Mt. Eden		27	43	47
Tennyson		26	47	47
San Leandro	San Leandro	30	53	52
Arroyo	San Lorenzo	40	55	60
San Lorenzo		28	43	43

East County	District	Reading	Math	Language
Dublin	Dublin	51	73	67
Amador Valley	Pleasanton	72	80	84
Foothill		74	75	79
Granada	Livermore	58	67	71
Livermore		51	57	65

South County	District	Reading	Math	Language
American	Fremont	35	42	59
Irvington		50	64	62
John F. Kennedy		40	59	56
Mission San Jose		84	92	90
Washington		49	62	65
Newark Memorial	Newark	31	45	49
Logan Memorial	New Haven U.	37	62	58

County Average	43	55	58
State Average	37	46	49

One can see that we have our strong performers in the county — Piedmont High School in North County and Mission San Jose in Fremont.

There are also a number of schools with poor student performance. Notable are 4 high schools in North County — Emery, Castlemont, Fremont, and McClymonds — scores in all three areas are low.

Some schools in Central County have very low scores in Reading (San Lorenzo, Tennyson, Mt. Eden and Hayward) but their Math and Language scores are higher.

Source: California Department of Education
<http://www.cde.ca.gov/psaa/api/api0102/base/expn01b.htm>

Academic Performance Index (API) Scores by High School and County Region 2001

The Public Schools Accountability Act of 1999 requires that the State calculate an Academic Performance Index (API) annually for each school. The 2001 index is based on the STAR test results reported on the previous page. It also is based on results from the California Standards Test in English-Language Arts.

High School	District	2001 API
North County		
Alameda	<u>Alameda City Unified</u>	723
Encinal		632
Albany	<u>Albany City Unified</u>	na
Berkeley	<u>Berkeley Unified</u>	722
Emery	<u>Emery Unified</u>	467
Castlemont	<u>Oakland Unified</u>	na
Fremont		433
McClymonds		379
Oakland		559
Oakland Technical		521
Skyline		581
Piedmont		<u>Piedmont City Unified</u>

High School	District	2001 API
Central County		
Castro Valley	<u>Castro Valley Unified</u>	734
Hayward	<u>Hayward Unified</u>	609
Mt. Eden		581
Tennyson		550
San Leandro	<u>San Leandro Unified</u>	626
Arroyo	<u>San Lorenzo Unified</u>	659
San Lorenzo		531

East County		
Dublin	<u>Dublin Unified</u>	727
Amador Valley	<u>Pleasanton Unified</u>	798
Foothill		799
Granada	<u>Livermore Valley Joint</u>	747
Livermore	<u>Unified</u>	720

South County		
American	<u>Fremont Unified</u>	676
Irvington		727
John F. Kennedy		651
Mission San Jose		877
Washington		709
Newark Memorial	<u>Newark Unified</u>	616
Logan Memorial	<u>New Haven Unified</u>	655

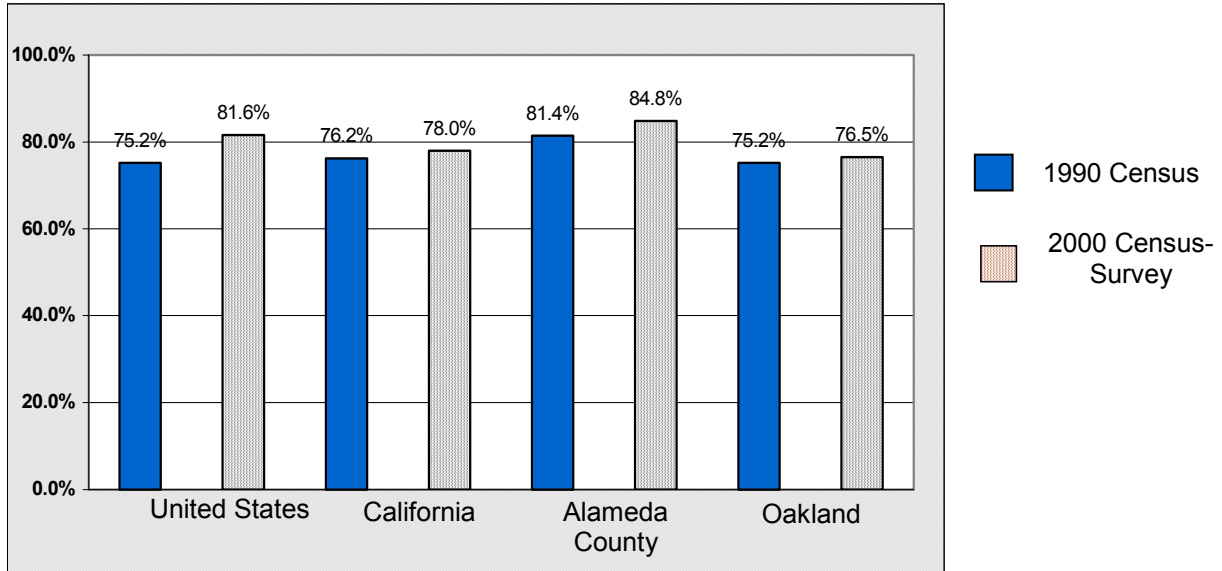
Average API Score for County Region	
North County	592
South County	701
Central County	613
East County	758

The tables display the 2001 API scores for individual high schools. We've arranged the schools into four county regions. The state has set 800 as the API score schools should meet.

North County has the lowest average API score of the four areas. East County and South County schools scored closest to the State's standard.

Sources: California Department of Education

Percent of Population 25 and older
With a HS Diploma/GED
1990 and 2000



	United States		California		Alameda County		Oakland	
	1990 Census	2000 Survey	1990 Census	2000 Survey	1990 Census	2000 Survey	1990 Census	2000 Survey
% without HS diploma/ged	24.8%	18.4%	23.8%	22.0%	18.6%	15.2%	24.8%	23.5%
% HS graduate or higher	75.2%	81.6%	76.2%	78.0%	81.4%	84.8%	75.2%	76.5%
% Bachelor's degree or higher	20.3%	25.1%	23.4%	27.5%	28.8%	36.1%	20.3%	33.2%

The Nation, the State, Alameda County and the city of Oakland have made gains in the percentage of their adult populations having a high school diploma or GED. These gains range from 1.3% in Oakland to 6.4% in the Nation

Much higher gains were made in the number of those who have obtained a 4 year college or more advanced degree. The percent gains ranged from 4.1% for the State to 12.9% for the City of Oakland. In Oakland and in Alameda County, more than one-third of adults age 25+ have a Bachelor's or more advanced degree.

Source: U. S. Census, American Fact Finder

ECONOMIC INDICATORS

A *bout these indicators . . .*

In this report we discuss indicators of economic well being for Alameda County. These indicators include average family income, the unemployment rate, the number of Cal-WORKs and General Assistance recipients, and poverty estimates for Alameda County. Included are data from Census 2000 and the Census 2000 Supplementary Survey.

To capture the high cost of living in the Bay Area, data are presented on housing prices and the fair market rent for a two-bedroom apartment. In addition, we present estimates of the income needed to be self-sufficient in Alameda County and contrast these to the federal poverty level.

In response to requests for more geographically specific information, the County has been divided into four geographical areas and some data (average income, median housing prices, and projected housing needs) are presented for each of these areas.

H *ighlights*

Mixed results — While there has been a steady rise in average household income, median earnings, a decline in dependence on public assistance, and a reduction in the percent of people living below the poverty line, there has also been a recent rise in unemployment, many working poor, and continued earnings inequality.

The good —

- Income and earnings—average income continues to increase.
- Reduction in poverty — there are fewer people below the Federal Poverty Threshold.
- Decline in reliance on public assistance —caseloads are smaller, more clients are working, and more have income from earnings.

The bad —

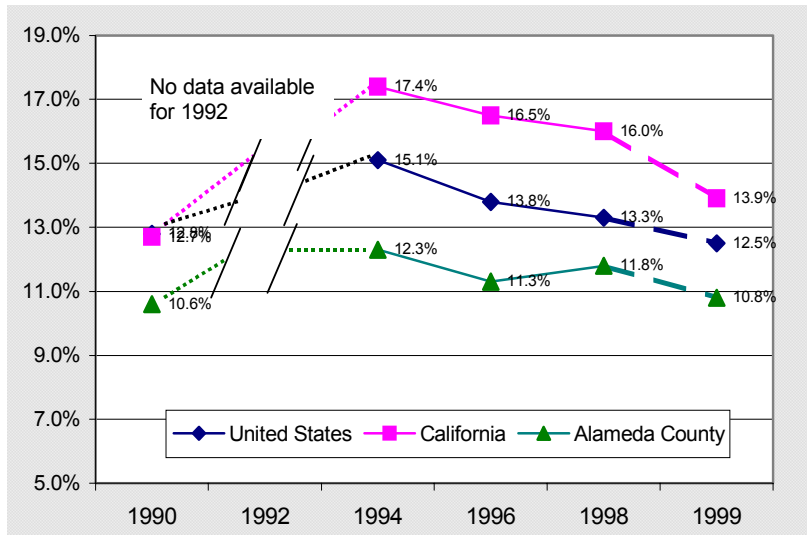
- Increase in the unemployment rate throughout most of 2001.
- For many, income falls short of the dollars needed to raise a family in Alameda County; almost half of households had incomes below \$40,000.

The ugly —

- Income inequality by income level, race and gender—The Legislative Analyst's Office (LAO) maintains that incomes of those in the highest income category continue to rise at a faster rate than incomes of those in lower income categories. There is also significant gender inequality in median earnings at the National, State and County level; in the city of Oakland, median earnings for men and women are equivalent though low.
- Unemployment is worse for African Americans and Hispanics and for those without a high school education.

Percent of People Living Below the Federal Poverty Threshold

1990 — 1999



The average poverty threshold for 1999 = \$17,029

The percent of people living below poverty in Alameda County, California and the United States appears to be continuing a downward trend. The rates are almost as low as they were in 1990. The 1999 estimated poverty rate of 10.8% for Alameda County represents 155,924 people, fewer than we reported in 1998 (168,000 people).

But, the Federal Poverty threshold is the same throughout the country regardless of the cost of living in an area — the Federal line falls far short of the income needed for self-sufficiency in Alameda County. That's why some organizations have taken it upon themselves to develop a more realistic picture of money needed to raise a family in the County. The table below lists 4 estimates, ranging from a low of \$48,688 to a high of \$66,500, of the dollars needed for a basic budget in Alameda County. Even the lowest estimate is almost 300% of the Poverty Threshold reported above.

Source	Amount
Self-Sufficiency Standard (single parent with infant and preschooler) ^a	\$48,688
Self-Sufficiency Standard (single parent with infant, preschooler and school age) ^a	\$66,500
Economic Policy Institute (1 parent with 3 children) ^b	\$49,608
The California Budget Project (single parent family) ^c	\$54,069

A snapshot of the estimated income distribution in Alameda County in 1998 shows that 23.3% of the households (96,716 households) have incomes under \$20,000; 35.5 % (over 147,000 households) have incomes under \$30,000; and, almost half are below \$40,000.

While it is positive that fewer people are living in Federally defined poverty, in Alameda County there are hundreds of thousands more who are struggling to meet their basic needs.

Notes: Data for 1999 come from the *Census Bureau Supplemental Survey* distributed to a large random sample of citizens at the time of the 2000 Census Data Collection. The prior years come from the Census Bureau's Small Area Income and Poverty Estimation (SAIPE) program.

The Census Bureau uses a three-year income average that includes income for the years prior to and subsequent to the reporting year. For example, the latest report, produced in March 1999, averages income for 1996, 1997, and 1998. The Census Bureau did not issue a poverty report for 1992.

Sources:

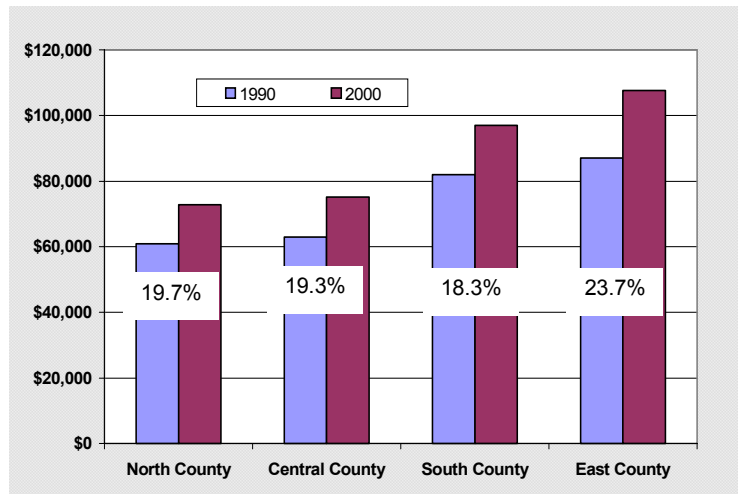
<http://www.census.gov/hhes/poverty/threshld/thresh99.html>;
www.census.gov/hhes/www/saie

^aEqual Rights Advocates, tm., 1663 Mission Street, Suite 550, San Francisco, CA 94103, tel: (415) 621-0672. (<http://www.equalrights.org/welfare/ssavg>).

^bEconomic Policy Institute (<http://www.epinet.org/datazone>).

^cThe California Budget Project (<http://www.cbp.org/reports/9910mem.html>)

Average Household Income and Percent Change by County Region 1990 and 2000



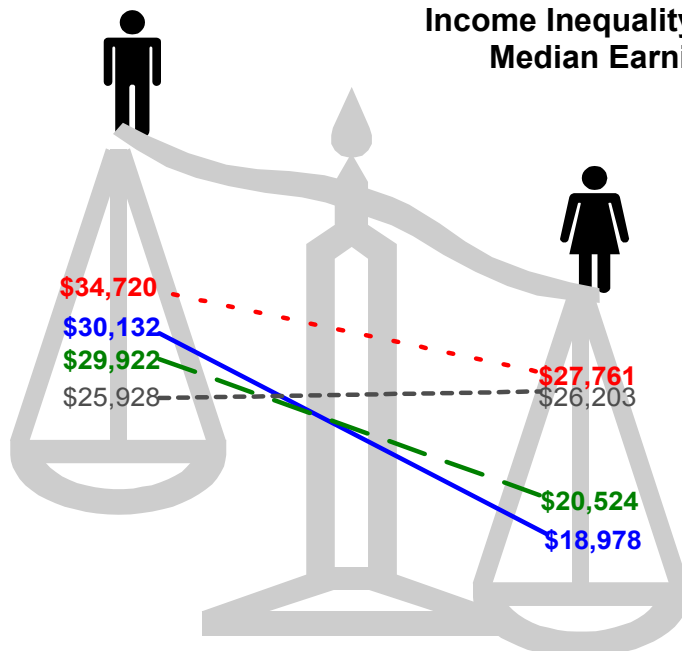
Average Household Income

	1990	2000	% Increase
North County	\$60,878	\$72,850	19.7%
Central County	\$62,933	\$75,098	19.3%
South County	\$82,017	\$97,000	18.3%
East County	\$87,024	\$107,621	23.7%
Alameda County	\$68,000	\$82,500	21.3%

Average household income increased in all areas of the County from 1990 to 2000 and the rate of increase was similar for each area. Household income was highest and the rate of growth the fastest in East County (Dublin, Livermore, Pleasanton, and surrounding unincorporated areas).

Source: Association of Bay Area Governments: Projections 2002

Income Inequality by Gender: Median Earnings 2000



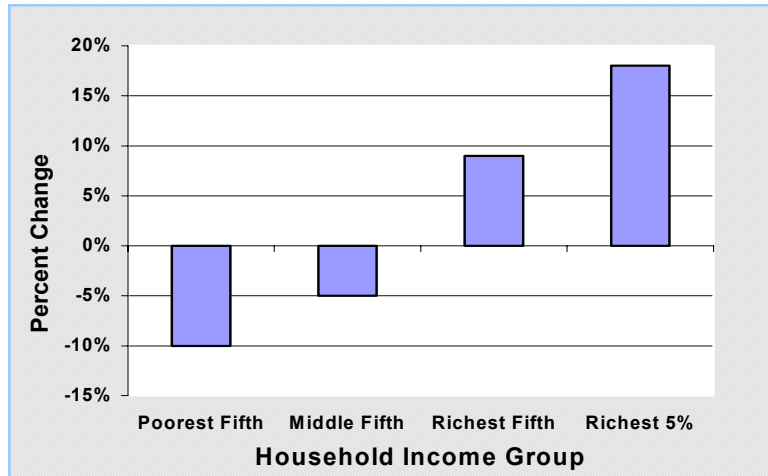
Income inequality continues to exist between men and women in the nation, in California and in Alameda County.

No such inequality appears to exist in the City of Oakland. Median earnings, the lowest of the 4 geographic areas, for men are almost identical to wages for women in the city.

- - - - - Nation
- California
- Alameda County
- Oakland

Source: U. S. Census Bureau: Census 2000: Supplementary Survey

Percentage Income Change for California Families Between the Late 1980's and the Late 1990's



**Income Changes for California Families
Between Late 1980's and Late 1990's**

	Poorest Fifth	Middle Fifth	Richest Fifth	Richest 5%
% Change	-10%	-5%	9%	18%
\$ Change	-\$1,410	-\$2,250	\$12,020	\$38,190

Income inequality has been increasing since the 1970's. From the late 80's through the late 90's, income for the poorest fifth in the state *decreased* by 10%; during the same period, income for the richest 5% *increased* by 18%.^a The Legislative Analyst's Office (LAO) maintains that incomes of those in the highest income category continue to rise at a faster rate than incomes of those in lower income categories.^b The Economic Policy Institute reports that California has one of the highest levels of income inequality in the country.

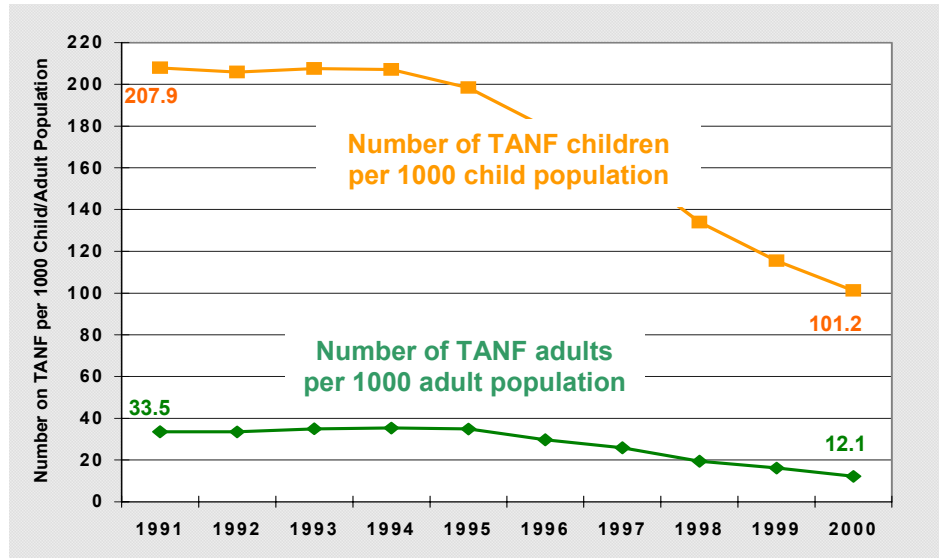
Sources:

^aEconomic Policy Institute/Center on Budget and Policy Priorities (<http://www.epinet.org/datazone/states/usmap/pdf/CA.pdf>)

^bhttp://www.lao.ca.gov/2000_reports/calfacts/2000_calfacts_economy_part1.html

^cClaritas Health Care Solution Series 1998

Alameda County CalWORKs Recipients: 1991-2000



	CaIWORKs Children			CaIWORKs Adults		
	Number of Children in Caseload	Alameda County Total Child Pop.	Rate per 1,000 children	Number of Adults in Caseload	Alameda County Total Adult Pop.	Rate per 1,000 adults
1991	65,545	315,201	207.9	33,011	986,788	33.5
1992	67,100	325,946	205.9	33,351	997,785	33.4
1993	69,129	333,019	207.6	35,044	1,002,574	35.0
1994	70,185	338,906	207.1	35,431	1,004,589	35.3
1995	68,116	343,302	198.4	35,024	1,006,078	34.8
1996	62,942	350,561	179.5	30,168	1,016,888	29.7
1997	57,566	355,743	161.8	26,590	1,027,111	25.9
1998	49,910	372,463	134.0	20,476	1,052,316	19.5
1999	43,855	379,822	115.5	17,281	1,068,821	16.2
2000	35,881	354,572	101.2	13,211	1,089,169	12.1

After peaking in 1994, the number of families receiving CalWORKs (previously AFDC) has decreased to the levels of the mid-1980s in Alameda County (and in the state and nation). Between 1991 and 2000, the number of child clients per 1000 child population fell from 207.9 per 1000 to 101.2 per 1000. For adults, the rate fell from 33.5 adult clients per 1000 adults to 12.1 per 1000.

Caseloads continued their downward trend through the implementation of CalWORKs in 1998. But, the trend had clearly begun a few years before.

Probable reasons for this decline include dropping birth rates, the economic expansion, and welfare reform.

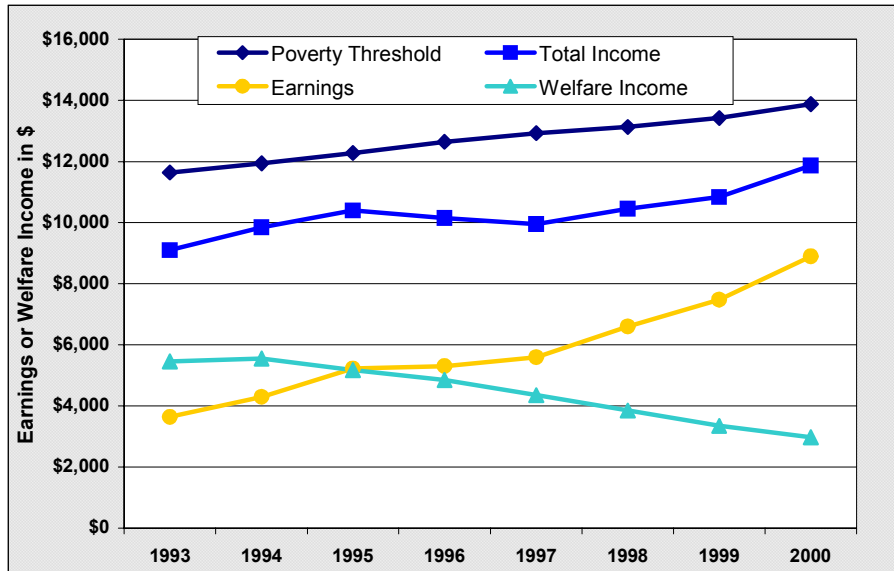
In addition to the decreasing numbers of recipients since 1995, the composition of the caseload has been changing.

Children constituted 66.5% of the caseload in 1991. In 2000, they were 73.1% of the TANF population.

The shift represents an increasing number of cases in which only children are being aided. The adults on the case are either non-needy caretakers or adults who have been sanctioned for not complying with CalWORKs regulations. Rather than making the entire case ineligible for aid (as occurs in some states), SSA continues to provide cash aid to children.

Source: Alameda County Social Services Agency. The person count was extracted from the December "Aid To Families With Dependent Children-Cash Grant Caseload Movement and Expenditures Report."

Earnings, Welfare Income and the Poverty Threshold National Data 1993—2000

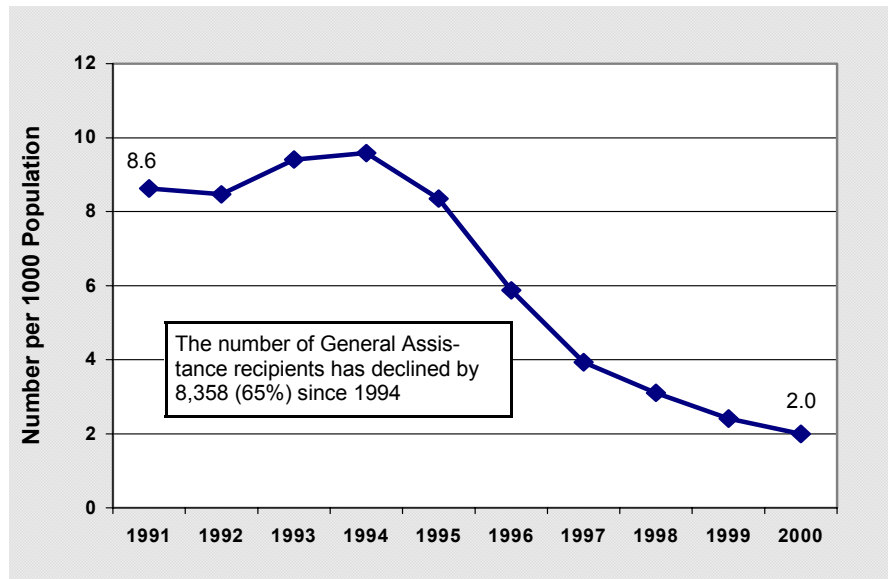


The lower part of the above chart clearly shows the decline in income from Welfare programs and the increase in income from earnings. What the two lines alone don't show is that even when combining income from all sources (second line from the top), welfare clients do not rise above the poverty threshold (in this case, for a mother and 2 children).

There has been improvement over time — in 1993, these single mothers were earning only 78% of the poverty threshold; in 1994, they earned 85% of the threshold. Welfare clients need to move into higher paying jobs which may mean obtaining more education and skills in order to be self-sufficient. It's clear that public support remains an important part of income even when earnings are received.

Source: Connect for Kids at the Benton Foundation

General Assistance Recipients: 1991—2000 Number Per 1,000 Countywide Population



	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Total Monthly Persons	11,232	11,204	12,569	12,872	11,268	8,026	5,500	4,425	3,487	2,910
Total County Population	1,301,989	1,323,731	1,335,593	1,343,495	1,349,380	1,366,649	1,398,500	1,424,779	1,448,643	1,443,742
Rate Per 1,000	8.6	8.5	9.4	9.6	8.4	5.9	3.9	3.1	2.4	2.0

This indicator tracks the number of people experiencing economic problems who are unable to support themselves and are not eligible for CalWORKs, SSI or other aid. These individuals are assisted through the General Assistance (GA) program funded completely by the county. Most are required to participate in an employment and training program to help them achieve self-sufficiency.

The chart shows a steady decline in the rate of GA participation since 1994. Policy changes, including time limits, increased sanctions, grant reductions, intensified eligibility verification efforts, tighter enforcement of income reporting requirements, and implementation of the Community Housing and Shelter Support Program have contributed to the decrease in the General Assistance caseload. An improving economy with more entry level positions available was also a likely factor in the decline.

Source: General Assistance and Interim Assistance to Applicants for S.S.I./S.S.P. Monthly Caseload and Expenditures Statistical Report for the Month of December 2000

Hunger in Alameda County

The Alameda County Community Food Bank (ACCFB) is the county's central clearinghouse for donated food. In Fiscal Year 2000/2001, The Food Bank, in collaboration with other hunger response agencies, provided assistance to 26,984 different people each week, or 87,795 different people annually, and distributed approximately 800,000 meals each month, a 16% increase from Fiscal Year 1999/2000.

This year we are presenting information on the clients and agencies served by the Food Bank. The information is drawn from a national study, Hunger in America 2001, sponsored by America's Second Harvest (A2H), the nation's largest organization of food providers. The local information is based on surveys of 439 clients and 211 agencies served by ACCFB. The data also include an assessment of the household's food security and hunger using a tool developed by the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Households are classified as food secure, food insecure without hunger, or food insecure with hunger.

The table below contains characteristics of food bank users in the County and the Nation from the A2H study.

Characteristics of Food Bank Users in Alameda County and the Nation		
Percent of Food Bank Users:	Alameda County	USA
receiving public benefits	75%	83%
households with one adult working full or part-time	37%	39%
households with no income	10.5%	7.3%
reporting having to choose between food and paying for utilities	48.8%	44.7%
having to choose between food and paying for rent/mortgage	45.4%	35.7%
classified as "food insecure"	83.5%	70.6%
households with children under 18 that are food insecure	46.0%	37.4%
age 50 and over	18.3%	22.5%
age 65 and over	5.2%	10.6%
without a place to live	13.3%	9.6%
average household income as percent of federal poverty level	86%	80%
average household income	\$10,836	\$9,996

Compared to the Nation, Alameda County Food Bank users were less likely to be receiving public benefits, about as likely to have someone working, more likely to have no income, and to have to choose between food and utilities or housing. Many more are classified as food insecure and are more likely to have children that are food insecure. Alameda County users also have higher average incomes than the Nation — it takes more income to live here and take care of a family. In addition, the income of the average County household using food bank services is 86% of the federal poverty level, exceeding the national average of 80%.

Source: Alameda County Community Food Bank; www.accfb.org, (510) 834-3663

Homelessness in Alameda County

The most commonly cited reasons for homelessness (in addition to inadequate income) include lack of affordable housing, lack of job opportunities, insufficient wages, addiction disorders, mental illness, and domestic violence.

The rapid expansion of the Bay Area economy has resulted in skyrocketing housing prices and rental rates. Many low-income families are facing difficulties in retaining or finding housing. With large increases in utility rates, the problem is expected to increase. The Board of Supervisors recognized the severity of the problem when they declared a *housing state of emergency* earlier this year.

The Social Services Agency (SSA) is able to provide a limited amount of housing assistance. The emergency shelter program provides short-term housing assistance to needy individuals and families. The Community Housing and Support Services program (CHASS) provides emergency shelter to homeless single adults in the General Assistance program. In February of 2001, SSA instituted the Homeless Safety Net Enhancement Strategy to strengthen and expand emergency shelter programs. As part of that budget strategy, SSA increased funding to the CHASS shelters to make facility improvements, provided new funding for shelters in North and South County, and continued funding for Continuum of Care planning.

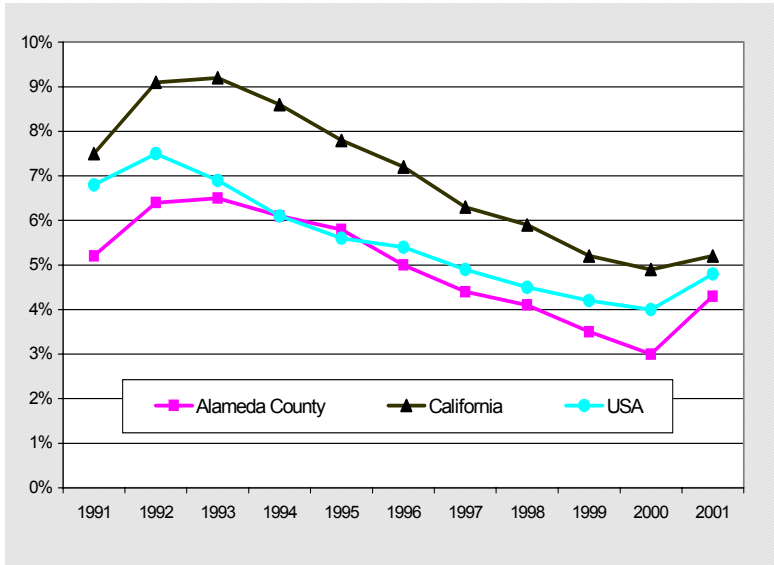
However, these programs are not long-term solutions. SSA is working with Housing and Community Development and the Continuum of Care to identify and/or create safe and affordable housing.

During Fiscal year 2001/2002, Alameda County is budgeted to provide in excess of \$19 million in direct services to homeless individuals. Of the total funding, SSA provides 32%, the Community Development Agency 39%, and Healthcare 29%.

Though difficult to accurately measure, efforts are still underway by the Alameda County-wide Homeless Continuum of Care Council and SSA to systematically gather and analyze data captured by a broad spectrum of homeless service providers. The Continuum applied for HUD funding to build a management information system (MIS) but did not receive the funds. Data from an MIS will enable us to better understand the needs and issues of people seeking homeless services.

Source: Alameda County Social Services Agency

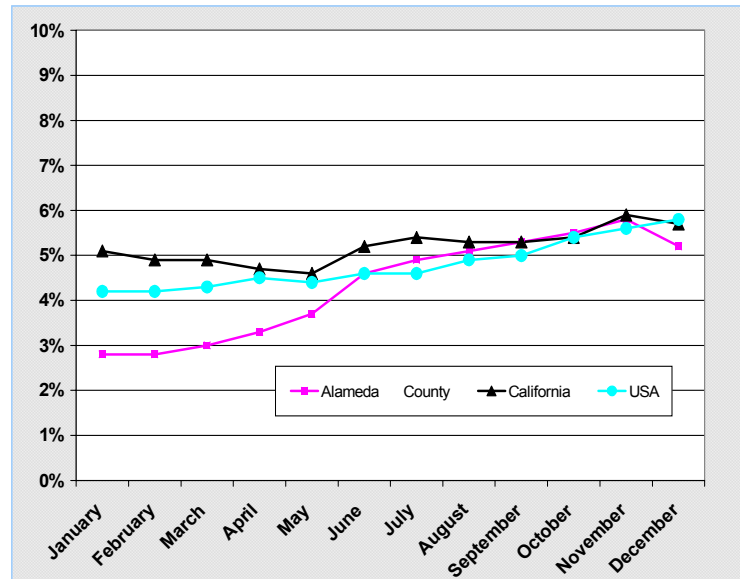
Annual Unemployment Rate 1991 through 2001



YEAR	Alameda County	California	USA
1991	5.2%	7.5%	6.8%
1992	6.4%	9.1%	7.5%
1993	6.5%	9.2%	6.9%
1994	6.1%	8.6%	6.1%
1995	5.8%	7.8%	5.6%
1996	5.0%	7.2%	5.4%
1997	4.4%	6.3%	4.9%
1998	4.1%	5.9%	4.5%
1999	3.5%	5.2%	4.2%
2000	3.0%	4.9%	4.0%
2001	4.3%	5.2%	4.8%

Monthly Unemployment Rate: 2001

Month	Alameda County	California	USA
January	2.8%	5.1%	4.2%
February	2.8%	4.9%	4.2%
March	3.0%	4.9%	4.3%
April	3.3%	4.7%	4.5%
May	3.7%	4.6%	4.4%
June	4.6%	5.2%	4.6%
July	4.9%	5.4%	4.6%
August	5.1%	5.3%	4.9%
September	5.3%	5.3%	5.0%
October	5.5%	5.4%	5.4%
November	5.8%	5.9%	5.6%
December	5.2%	5.7%	5.8%



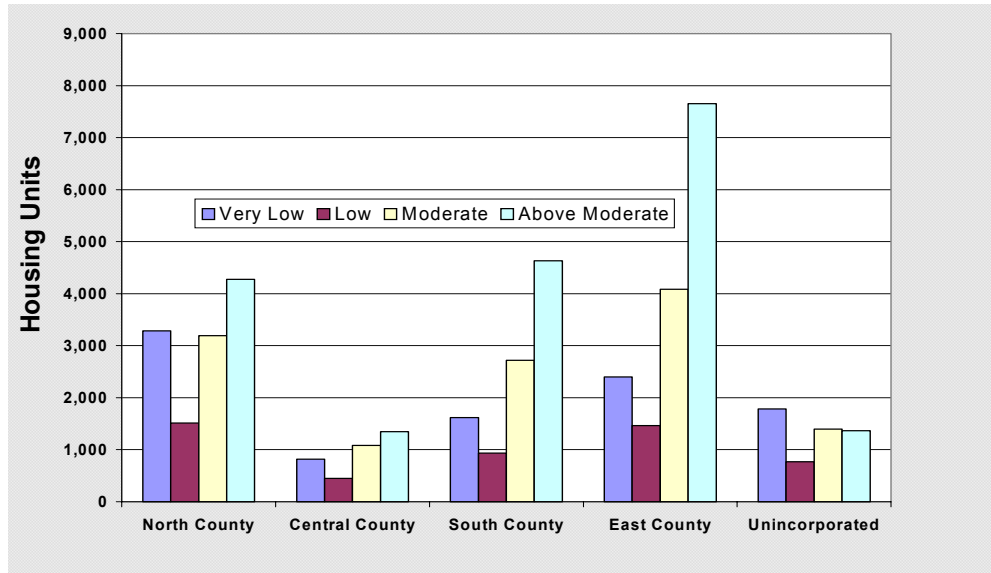
Between 1993 and 2000, the unemployment rate in Alameda County fell 3.5%, from 6.5% to 3.0%. In 2001, the annual unemployment rate for Alameda County rose for the first time in seven years (i.e. from 3.0% to 4.3%). Unemployment cycles in Alameda County over the past ten years closely mirror those at the state and national level.

We don't have more detailed information about unemployment for the County, but we do have information for the State. The Economic Policy Institute reports that based on pooled data for 1997-1999, women tend to have somewhat higher unemployment rates than men. The highest unemployment rates are found in the African-American population — for African-American men without high school, 39.1% were unemployed and for African-American women without high school, 43.2% were unemployed. In contrast, the rate for all females in California without a high school education was 16.8% and for all men, it was 10.9%.

Notes: The *unemployment rate* is calculated by dividing the number of people surveyed as seeking employment by the number of people in the labor force. An unemployed person is someone who is actively seeking employment, but does not have a job. Civilian labor force includes all non-institutional civilians 16 years of age and older who are working or looking for work: the sum of the employed and the unemployed.

Sources: Employment Development Department Mishel, Lawrence, et al. 2000. The State of Working America 2000-2001, Economic Policy Institute

Regional Housing Needs Projected New Housing Units Required by Household Income Level 1999-2006



Number of New Housing Units Needed 1999-2006

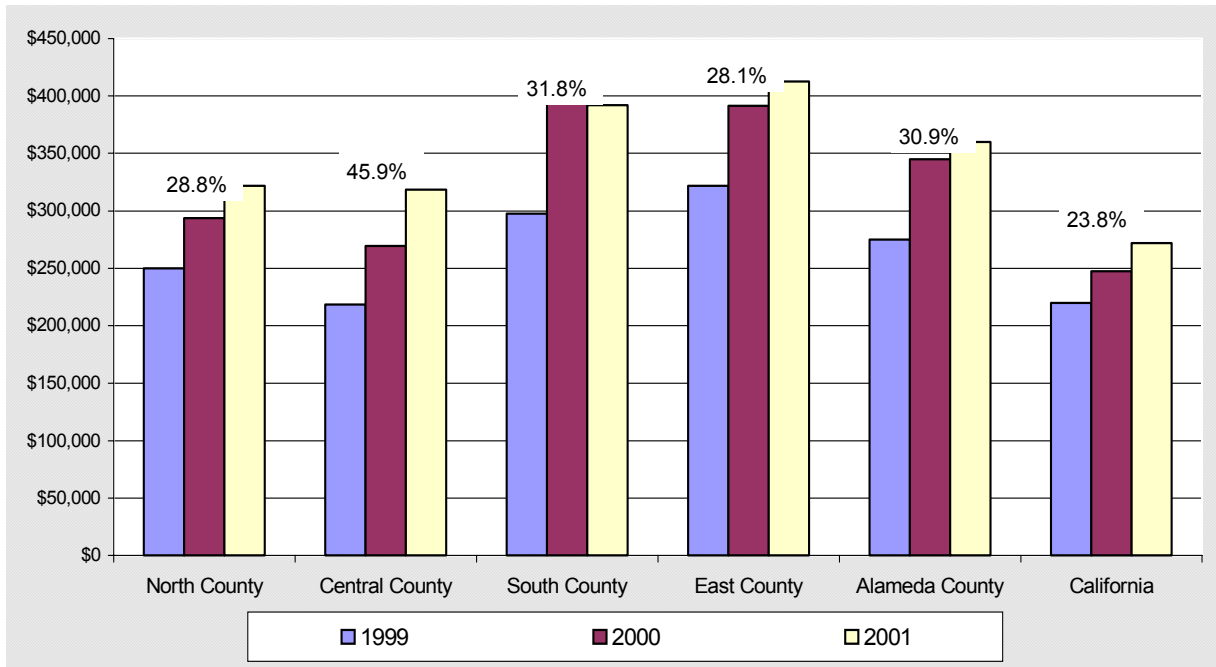
	Total	Very Low	Low	Moderate	Above Moderate
North County	12,267	3,283	1,516	3,193	4,275
Central County	3,705	820	451	1,085	1,349
South County	9,909	1,622	936	2,720	4,631
East County	15,602	2,400	1,468	4,083	7,651
Unincorporated	5,310	1,785	767	1,395	1,363
Alameda County	46,793	9,910	5,138	12,476	19,269

There is a need for additional housing units in all income ranges in all sections of the county. The greatest need for housing units for Low and Very Low income groups is in North County. The need for high-end housing is greatest in East County where income is higher.

Note: Projected housing unit needs are derived by assessing potential growth rates (population, jobs, and households) and the loss of housing due to demolition. This number is presented by the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) to the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG). The income criteria for each category is determined at the county level by HCD and varies according to the number of people in the household. ABAG is responsible for allocating the housing needs goal numbers to cities and counties in the Bay Area based on the number households in each income group in each jurisdiction.

Source: Association of Bay Area Governments: Regional Housing Needs Determination

Median Housing Prices and Percent Change by County Region 1999—2001



Median Housing Prices

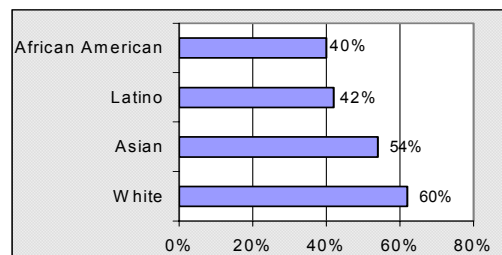
	1999	2000	2001	% increase 1999-2001
North County	\$250,006	\$293,510	\$321,990	28.8%
Central County	\$218,327	\$269,638	\$318,620	45.9%
South County	\$297,469	\$395,957	\$392,027	31.8%
East County	\$322,067	\$391,417	\$412,423	28.1%
Alameda County	\$275,000	\$345,000	\$360,000	30.9%
California	\$219,760	\$247,450	\$271,972	23.8%

Median housing prices are derived from the prices in those Alameda County cities for which the California Association of Realtors (CAR) keeps figures. In 2001, the median price in Alameda County was \$360,000, 32% higher than the state median of \$272,972. The highest median price in Alameda County (\$412,423) was in East County.

CAR estimates that only 27% of households in the San Francisco Bay Area can afford to purchase a median priced home. In Sacramento, 58% of households can afford to buy a median priced house and in the nation, 55% can buy homes.

Home ownership also varies by race even when differences in income are considered. In 1999, the proportion of different racial groups owning homes in the state is pictured in the graph.

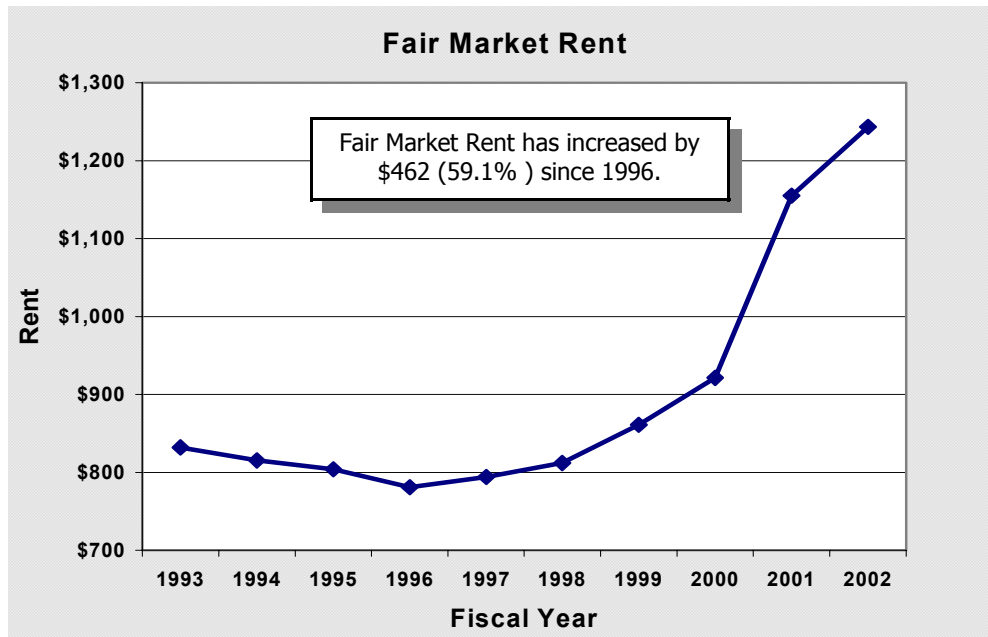
Home Ownership: State of California



Notes: The median price for each area is a weighted average. Median prices for large cities are more important than the average for small cities.

Sources: California Association of Realtors; 3rd Quarter Median Home Prices
California Budget Project, May 2000: "Locked out, California's Affordable Housing Crisis."

Fair Market Rent for 2 Bedroom Units: Oakland Metropolitan Statistical Area 1993—2002



Fair Market Rent and Rate of Change

Fiscal Year	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
2 Bedroom Fair Market Rent	\$832	\$815	\$804	\$781	\$794	\$812	\$861	\$921	\$1,155	\$1,243
% change since 1993		-2.0%	-3.4%	-6.1%	-4.6%	-2.4%	3.5%	10.7%	38.8%	49.4%

This indicator is a measure of housing affordability for the rental market. It is calculated by the US Department of Housing and Urban Development as the 40th percentile of rents for a standard two bedroom apartment. The graph shows a continuous increase from 1996 to 2002. Most of the increase has come in the past two years as rents have increased 35% since 2000. About 43% of California households are renters; many of their incomes have not kept pace with the cost of housing.

The CalWORKs grant for a family of 3 is \$679. If this family were to try to rent a 2 bedroom apartment in Alameda County, they would be faced with a fair market rent of \$1,243. This household would need an additional \$674 just to meet this rent.

It is estimated by the U.S. Census that almost 21% of Alameda County renters pay 50% or more of their income on rent.

Notes: The Oakland MSA (Metropolitan Statistical Area) includes Alameda and Contra Costa counties. It is the smallest available reporting area for Fair Market Rent data.

Rent is based on a two bedroom unit. To establish Fair Market Rents (FMRs), HUD uses data from the most recent census and the American Housing Survey to develop base rents. The F.M.R. is intended to represent a figure at or below which modest, decent, safe, and sanitary housing (including the cost of utilities) can be rented on the private market. FMRs are based on rents for units which are at or below the 40th percentile for standard rental housing and on rents for units occupied by persons who have moved in the past two years.

Source: U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
www.hudusers.org/datasets/fmr
 U.S. Census Supplementary Survey, 2000

SAFETY INDICATORS

A *bout the indicators . . .*

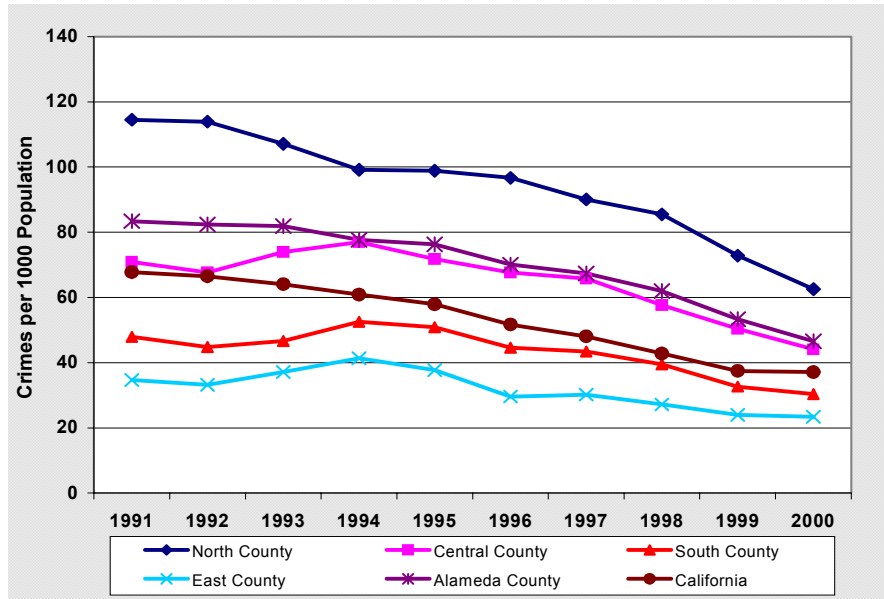
Safety indicators reflect the degree to which families and communities are able to live, work, and raise their children in an environment that is free from crime, violence, and insecurity. Criminal activity is often viewed as a precursor to a downward spiral in community health and well-being.

The indicators chosen for this report include: the FBI Crime Index and Crime Rate; drug related felony arrests; domestic violence-related calls; juveniles referred to probation; the foster care population; and child abuse case openings. Crime and domestic violence data are reported for each of the four regions within the county. In addition, we use local data to report about children who died in the County.

H *ighlights*

- *Continued drop in County crime since 1995 —*
Measures of adult and juvenile crime reflect a generally safer climate in the county over time. Most crime indices (except for the number of drug related felony arrests) have shown a consistent downward trend in Alameda County since 1995. Dropping crime rates have also occurred in the State and the Nation.
- *Crime higher in North County —*
Crime rates have been consistently higher than the county average in North County, which includes the City of Oakland. We expect more crime in urban areas and where economic conditions are relatively poor. These characteristics are generally more prevalent in North County cities.
- *More children in foster care —*
The number of children in foster care continues to grow and is greater now than at any time in the past ten years. Between 2000 and 2001, there was a slight drop in the rate but it will take more time to see if this is a new trend or not. The rate for the state has been decreasing since 1998.
- *Steady rate of child abuse —*
We also report a fairly steady rate of child abuse case openings since 1998, varying from 3.6 to 3.9 case openings per 1,000 children age 0 through 17.
- *Fewer children dying by violence —*
In 1994, the Coroner identified 38 children who died as a result of violence but only 7 in 2001.

Crime Rates by County Region Number of Crimes Per 1,000 Population 1991—2000



Crime Rate Per 1,000 population

	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
North County	114.5	113.9	107.1	99.2	98.9	96.7	90.1	85.5	72.8	62.6
Central County	70.9	67.7	73.9	77.0	71.8	67.6	65.8	57.6	50.4	44.1
South County	47.9	44.8	46.7	52.5	50.9	44.6	43.4	39.5	32.7	30.4
East County	34.7	33.2	37.1	41.3	37.7	29.6	30.2	27.2	24.0	23.4
Alameda County	83.4	82.4	81.9	77.7	76.3	70.1	67.3	62.0	53.3	46.6
California	67.8	66.5	64.1	60.9	57.9	51.7	48.1	42.8	37.5	37.1

Crime Index for County Areas

	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
North County	589,168	594,286	597,832	597,650	597,737	590,605	608,621	614,936	619,743	608,764
Central County	186,766	190,782	191,901	192,594	192,555	195,023	199,410	201,941	205,519	219,482
South County	269,675	276,101	278,729	281,953	284,561	290,016	300,452	309,795	317,045	312,753
East County	136,326	150,518	143,054	146,417	148,589	153,035	160,072	165,593	172,046	166,972

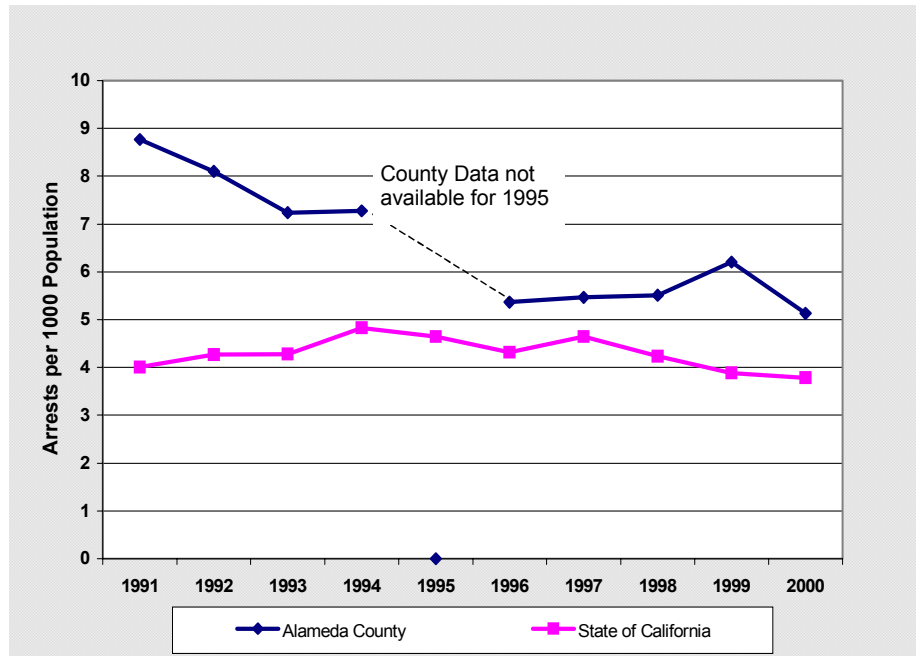
The crime rate is calculated as the number of crimes (as determined by the FBI crime index) per 1,000 population. The FBI crime index is the total number of crimes in the following eight categories: Homicide, Forcible Rape, Robbery, Aggravated Assault, Burglary, Motor Vehicle Theft, Larceny theft, and Arson.

The crime rate has continuously declined in the State, the County, and in each area of the County for the past ten years.

The crime rate for Alameda County has been higher than the statewide rate for the past ten years. This is due to the comparatively high rates reported for North County and Central County. Both South County and East County have recorded rates well below that of the state.

Source: California Department of Justice, Criminal Justice Statistic Center, Table 11

Drug Related Felony Arrests Number Per 1,000 Population 1991—2000



ALAMEDA COUNTY				STATE OF CALIFORNIA			
Year	Count	Population	Rate per 1000	Year	Count	Population	Rate per 1000
1991	11,408	1,301,086	8.8	1991	125,241	31,238,000	4.0
1992	10,712	1,322,558	8.1	1992	135,448	31,719,000	4.3
1993	9,656	1,334,231	7.2	1993	136,943	31,996,000	4.3
1994	9,764	1,342,019	7.3	1994	155,175	32,140,000	4.8
1995	N/A	1,347,739	N/A	1995	149,012	32,063,000	4.6
1996	7,322	1,365,041	5.4	1996	139,772	32,383,000	4.3
1997	7,646	1,398,590	5.5	1997	153,099	32,957,000	4.6
1998	7,852	1,424,779	5.5	1998	141,766	33,494,000	4.2
1999	8,985	1,448,643	6.2	1999	133,437	34,336,000	3.9
2000	7,414	1,443,741	5.1	2000	128,142	33,871,648	3.8

In 2000, the rate of drug related felony arrests in Alameda County was the lowest it has been in the past ten years (5.1 arrests per 1,000 population). This represents a drop of 17% in the rate from the previous year. However, this arrest rate is still higher than the statewide average. The higher County rate may be due in part to the urban nature of Alameda County. Urban areas tend to have higher crime rates than rural areas.

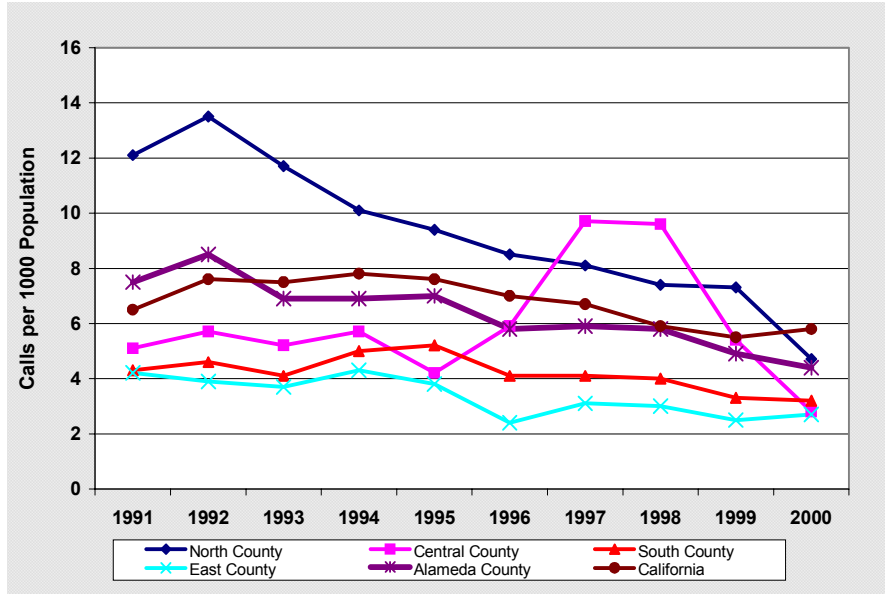
This indicator probably underestimates the extent of drug related crime since drug related crimes are only reported to the FBI if there is an accompanying felony arrest.

Notes: Drug related felony arrests include arrests for the sale of or possession of narcotics, marijuana, dangerous drugs, and other drug offenses. Due to the installation of a new computer system, the Oakland Police were unable to report the number of drug related arrests the department processed in 1995.

Source: California Department of Justice

Domestic Violence Calls by County Region

Calls per 1000 Population 1991—2000



Number of Domestic Violence calls per 1,000 population

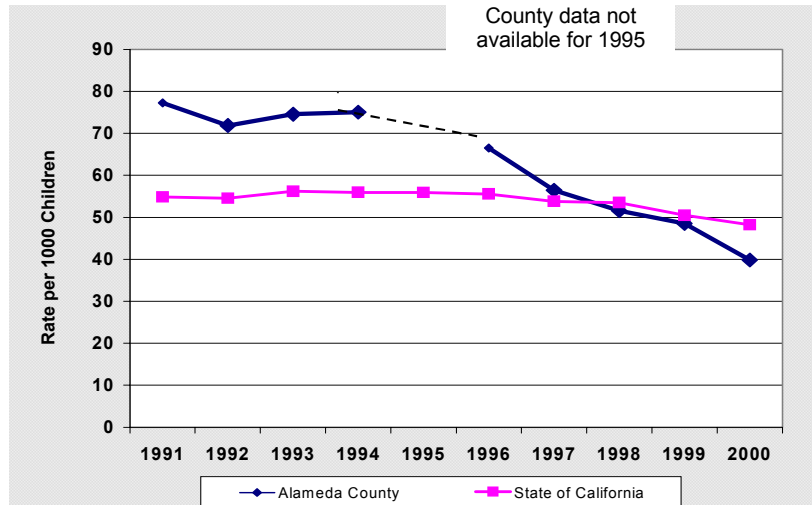
	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
North County	12.1	13.5	11.7	10.1	9.4	8.5	8.1	7.4	7.3	4.7
Central County	5.1	5.7	5.2	5.7	4.2	5.9	9.7	9.6	5.4	2.8
South County	4.3	4.6	4.1	5.0	5.2	4.1	4.1	4.0	3.3	3.2
East County	4.2	3.9	3.7	4.3	3.8	2.4	3.1	3.0	2.5	2.7
Alameda County	7.5	8.5	6.9	6.9	7.0	5.8	5.9	5.8	4.9	4.4
California	6.5	7.6	7.5	7.8	7.6	7.0	6.7	5.9	5.5	5.8

The number of domestic violence calls represents all calls where a police response was made and there was an indication of an actual act of domestic violence. It includes calls where no weapon was used or was present.

In all areas of Alameda County, the number of domestic violence calls per 1,000 people is lower than the state average. The rate for 2000 in North County is higher than the County average but shows a 35% drop from the previous year. The increase in Central County during 1997 and 1998 reflects heightened attention to these cases in Hayward, where a new Domestic Violence Unit was formed that increased arrests.

Source: Domestic Violence Calls; California Department of Justice, Criminal Justice Statistics Center, Report Number 14, Population; California Department of Finance, Demographic Research Unit.

Juveniles Referred To Probation Number Per 1,000 Children age 10 through 17 1991—2000



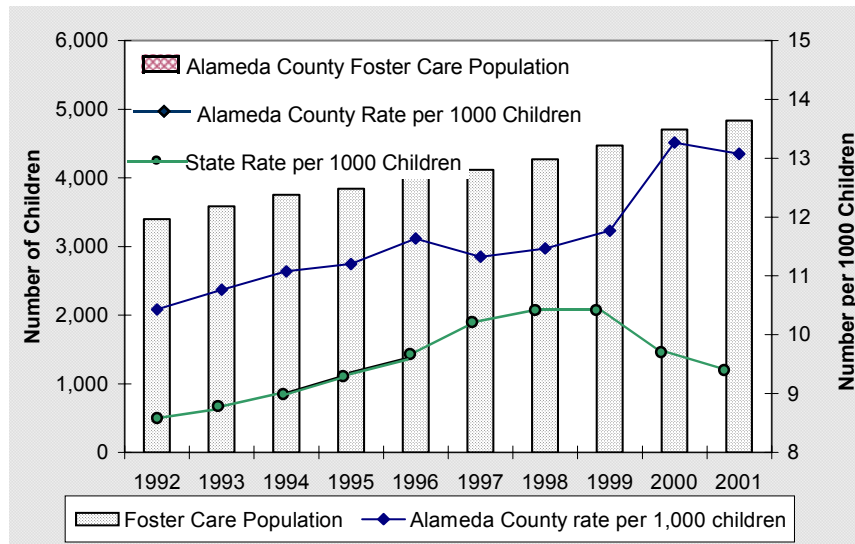
ALAMEDA COUNTY				STATE OF CALIFORNIA			
Year	Number of Referrals	Child Population	Rate per 1,000 children	Year	Number of Referrals	Child Population	Rate per 1000 children
1991	9,610	124,400	77.3	1991	177,040	3,228,200	54.8
1992	9,224	128,300	71.9	1992	180,759	3,314,500	54.5
1993	9,793	131,300	74.6	1993	191,671	3,410,900	56.2
1994	10,107	134,700	75.0	1994	196,375	3,509,800	56.0
1995	n/a	138,500	N/A	1995	202,248	3,616,900	55.9
1996	9,478	142,500	66.5	1996	207,072	3,728,500	55.5
1997	8,260	146,300	56.5	1997	205,904	3,825,500	53.8
1998	7,757	150,400	51.6	1998	201,415	3,764,900	53.5
1999	7,543	155,400	48.5	1999	194,678	3,856,700	50.5
2000	6,438	161,700	39.8	2000	193,079	4,005,700	48.2

In Alameda County, the number of juveniles referred to probation has decreased steadily since 1994 while the juvenile population has increased 20% over that time period. The referral rate (the number of juveniles referred to Probation per 1,000 juveniles in the population) has been less than the State average for the last two years and has been declining at a greater rate than the State since 1994.

Note: A juvenile is a person who is aged 10 to 17. A juvenile referral is the referral of a minor who has been arrested and referred to the Probation Department for case handling. Before 1997, the count of juvenile referrals was generated from a report made at the end of the calendar year. Since then, these numbers have been generated at the end of the fiscal year and may therefore explain part of the sudden drop in referrals.

Source: Alameda County Probation Department

Foster Care Population Number and Number Per Thousand Children Age 0-17 1992—2001



Foster Care Population and Rate per 1,000 Children Age 0-17

	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
Foster Care Population	3,400	3,585	3,754	3,845	4,079	4,120	4,272	4,470	4,705	4,837
Total children aged 0 to 17	325,946	333,019	338,906	343,302	350,561	363,725	372,463	379,822	354,572	369,954
Alameda County rate per 1,000 children	10.4	10.8	11.1	11.2	11.6	11.3	11.5	11.8	13.3	13.1
State rate per 1,000 children	8.4	8.6	8.9	9.4	9.7	10.4	10.6	10.5	9.7	9.3

The number of children in foster care in Alameda County has increased steadily over the past 10 years. In 2001, for every 1,000 children aged 0—17, 13.9 lived in foster care. Data represent the foster care population as of the end of each year.

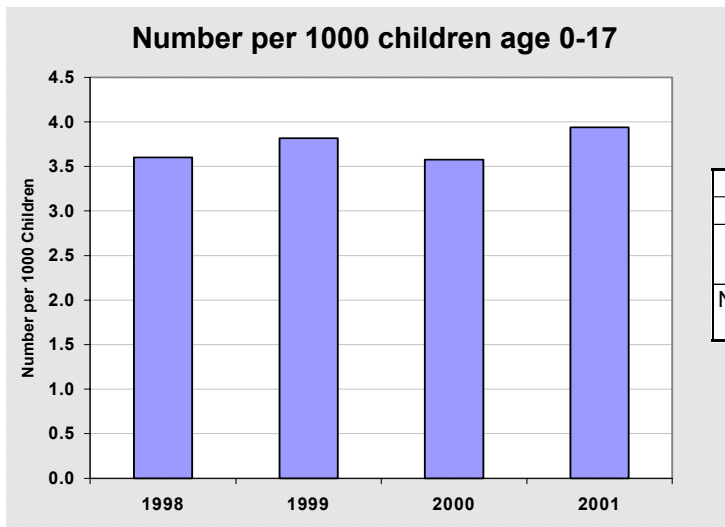
The foster care rate for Alameda County has consistently exceeded the rate for the State. This difference is widening as the State rate has begun to decline while the rate for the County has just experienced its first decline in many year. The State Legislative Analyst’s Office (LAO) attributes the State decline, in part, to the advent of Kinship Care programs that allow children to exit the foster care system to family caregivers.

Alameda County is presently establishing a new Kinship Unit in its Long Term Care Department. As a result, we should see a drop in the number of children in foster care by next year.

Notes: Some historical counts on this page differ from those in previous Benchmark Reports. This is due to a change in source data. For the first time, foster care counts were compiled directly from the state-wide CWS/CMS system. Alameda County is a member of this system and, as such, is directly responsible for the accuracy and reliability of the data it produces.

Source, County Data: Alameda County Social Services Agency: 1992-1998 Hot Line Data Base; 1999-2001 CWS/CMS
 Source, State Data: University of California, Berkeley: Center for Social Service Research (<http://cssr.berkeley.edu/index.html>)

Child Abuse Case Openings 1998—2001



	1998	1999	2000	2001
Case Openings	1,341	1,449	1,268	1,421
Child Population 0 to 17	372,463	379,822	354,572	360,954
Number per 1,000 population	3.6	3.8	3.6	3.9

Child abuse referrals become cases (1 for each child in the referral) when the family has been receiving services for more than 30 days. Usually, there is a substantiated allegation though some cases are opened because they are referred to Family Preservation Services. Not every instance of substantiated allegation becomes an open case and not all of these cases are the children made dependents of the court.

The rate of child abuse case openings has remained fairly stable over the past four years, varying from 3.6 to 3.9 cases for every 1000 youth aged 0 through 17.

Youth Deaths: 1994—2001

In Alameda County, youth deaths by violence (including homicide, suicide, child abuse, accidental shootings, and deaths that involve drugs and alcohol) are scrutinized and monitored by Supervisor Gail Steele. Each year, the Children's Memorial Committee remembers these children in a public ceremony where a special children's flag is flown and each deceased child's name is read aloud.

Since 1994, the number of children who died by violent means has decreased. In 1994, the Coroner identified 38 children who died as a result of violence; in 2001, he identified only 7.

Violent Deaths of Children							
1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
38	32	21	25	10	14	18	7

Notes: Some historical counts differ from those cited in previous Benchmarks Reports as well as counts in Annual Reports from the Children and Family Services Department of the Social Services Agency.

This is due to a change in source data. For the first time, foster care counts were compiled directly from the state-wide CWS/CMS system. Alameda County is a member of this system and, as such, is directly responsible for the accuracy and reliability of the data it produces.

¹The Coroner's Bureau forwards reports on all children who died that come to their attention to Alameda County's Child Death Review Committee (CDRC). CDRC staff made these data available to us.

Source: Alameda County Social Services Agency, Children and Family Services, CWS/CMS

APPENDIX A: Welfare Reform Research Projects

Welfare reform has generated a great deal of interest in evaluating how program changes are affecting welfare families. In Alameda County, twelve CalWORKs research projects are currently being conducted or were recently completed by independent research groups. These studies look at a broad range of research questions about the impact of welfare reform, the needs of CalWORKs customers, and the best practices for helping them achieve long-term self-sufficiency. For further information, contact: Tracy Salkowitz, Alameda County Social Services Agency, Office of Agency Planning (510) 271-9160.

POST-EMPLOYMENT RETENTION SERVICES IN ALAMEDA COUNTY

NEDLC Study

Lead: Sue Wong, National Economic Development Law Center
 Contact Information: swong@nedlc.org (510) 251-2600 x-121
 Publication date: February 2001

The Alameda County Social Services Agency contracted with the National Economic Development and Law Center (NEDLC) to conduct a research project to inform the development of a comprehensive post-employment system that would provide retention and advancement services for former welfare recipients. The project was comprised of: 1) A national literature review of promising and innovative practices. 2) A needs assessment of working CalWORKs recipients including former and current recipients still receiving cash aid. 3) A series of strategic planning discussions to assist in the design of a post-employment services system. A report on the needs assessment summary and recommendations the entitled "*Breaking New Ground: Post-Employment Strategies that Promote Economic Self-Sufficiency for the Working Poor*" was published January 31, 2001.

CAL-LEARN EVALUATION

Lead: Jane Mauldon, U.C. DATA, Goldman School of Public Policy, U.C. Berkeley
 Contact Information: (510) 642-3475, jmauldon@socrates.berkeley.edu
 Publications & Dates: The outcome evaluation (April 2001) and two program implementation reports (1997 and 1998) are available on the UC DATA website (<http://ucdata.berkeley.edu>).

Cal-Learn is a state mandated program for teen parents on welfare without a high school diploma. U.C. DATA implemented an experimental research design to study the impact of the program on the high school completion rates of teens in the program in Alameda and three other counties. The study utilized a telephone survey of teen clients, administrative data from the case management agencies and the county welfare departments. The outcome evaluation "*The Impact of California's Cal-Learn Demonstration Project, Final Report*" was released in April 2001 and it is available on the UC DATA website.

EVALUATION OF CBOS

Lead: Nan Maxwell, The Human Investment Research and Education (HIRE) Center, Cal State Hayward
 Contact Information: (510) 885-3191, nmaxwell@csuhayward.edu, <http://www.hire.csuhayward.edu/>
 Publication Date: October 2000.

In Spring 2000 the Alameda County Social Services Agency (SSA) contracted with the Human Investment Research and Education (HIRE) Center at California State University, Hayward (CSUH) to evaluate the Community Based Organization (CBO) contracting process for Welfare-to-Work Services. The evaluation was one of the projects undertaken by the Learning Center for Excellence, a unit in the HIRE Center.

Appendix A (continued)

CALWORKS LEAVERS STUDY

Lead: David Mancuso and Mark Gritz, SPHERE Institute
Contact Information: mancuso@sphereinstitute.org (650) 558-3980
Publication Date: October 26, 2001

SPHERE selected a random sample of 400 welfare “leavers” in Alameda County (i.e., people who went off aid for at least two consecutive months during the study period) and conducted two telephone surveys, at 6 and 12 month intervals after they left welfare. The survey polled respondents about employment, earnings and other income issues related to housing (crowding, cost and quality), food and economic security, child care (cost and quality), health care needs and coverage, and experience with domestic violence since the original date of departure. Data from the survey are being used to create the broadest possible picture of the circumstances of these former recipients and their families over time.

STUDY OF SANCTIONS IN CALWORKS

Lead: Yeheskel “Zeke” Hasenfeld, UCLA School of Public Policy and Social Research
Contact Information: (310) 825-2194, zekeh@ucla.edu, <http://www.sppsr.ucla.edu/>
Expected Publication Date: June 2002

This project addresses questions from the frequency that sanctions are imposed to their impact on CalWORKs participants including important data on the experiences of participants with serious barriers to employment. The research includes the collection of administrative, survey and participant observation data. Alameda will be compared with Fresno, Kern, San Bernardino and San Diego. Sub-group analyses will be undertaken of one and two parent cases, differences by ethnicity, age, and barriers to employment.

ALAMEDA COUNTY CALWORKS NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Lead: Richard Speiglman, Public Health Institute
Contact: (510) 649-1987 http://www.co.alameda.ca.us/assistance/publications_reports.htm#assessment
Publications & Dates: Report 1: (8/99) “*A Look at Potential Health-Related Barriers to Self-Sufficiency*”.
Report 2: (2/00) “*Barriers to Working and Summaries of Baseline Status*”.
Report 3: (6/00) “*Barriers Associated with Working, Hardships of Daily Living, Progress through CalWORKs and Work-related Activities*”.
Report 4: (11/01) “*Changes in Economic, Work, Welfare, and Barrier Status 15 months Post-Baseline*”.
Report 5 due in June 2002.

This study assesses the needs and barriers of CalWORKs recipients as well as the impact of these barriers on family self-sufficiency. The study examines health status, mental health, substance abuse, domestic violence, and other problems that are likely to interfere with families’ ability to obtain and keep employment. The study has collected longitudinal data via three successive waves of in-person, in-home surveys with a random sample 512 English, Spanish and Vietnamese speaking CalWORKs recipients who were not exempt from the work requirements as of October 1998. The initial wave of interviews was conducted in the Spring of 1999, the second wave was conducted in the Spring of 2000, and the third wave during the Summer of 2001. Families remained in the study even if they had left CalWORKs.

Appendix A (continued)

ALAMEDA COUNTY CALWORKS NEEDS ASSESSMENT (CONTINUED)

The first 3 PHI reports examine the circumstances of these CalWORKs families in 1999. Report #4 looks at how things changed at "Wave 2", 15 months later, focusing on economic/employment situations, progress through the CalWORKs program, and which barriers presented the greatest obstacles to employment.

CALWORKS PROGRAM STATEWIDE EVALUATION

Lead: Jacob Klerman, RAND

Contact Information: (310) 393-0411, <http://www.rand.org/CalWORKs>.

Publication Dates: Multiple reports on the implementation of CalWORKs are now available on the Internet at: (<http://www.rand.org/calworks/publications.html>). The third implementation report, as well as an interim and final Impact and Cost Benefit report are expected to be released in 2002.

This legislatively mandated statewide evaluation of the CalWORKs program has two parts. 1) The process evaluation tracks the implementation of CalWORKs at the state and county levels. Alameda is one of 6 focus counties that are receiving intensive study, including: a household survey of CalWORKs recipients, a survey of CalWORKs line workers, and more rigorous analysis of county administrative data. 2) The outcome study will explore the impact of CalWORKs on measures such as caseload size, recipients' aid payments and earnings and employment. The study will control for changes in economic conditions, geographic differences and other policy changes.

THE PRECARIOUS FAMILIES STUDY

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Expected Publication Date: 2002

The Precarious Families Study is collaboration between UC DATA, the Center for Social Science Research (CSSR), both at the University of California at Berkeley and the Urban Institute. There are four distinct components to this study.

Focus groups (three) were conducted during the winter of 1998/99 with Alameda county Jobs Club participants. Participants were asked about their knowledge and perceptions of CalWORKs, how they planned to cope with changes in welfare rules and how these changes were affecting their families' lives.

A telephone survey was conducted in Spring/summer 2000 in three languages (English, Spanish and Vietnamese), covering changes in household composition and housing status, experiences with homelessness and hunger, recent employment history, health information, use of welfare and other social service support systems, child care, how families manage CalWORKs responsibilities, and educational and training activities. The sample for the survey was people who were previously interviewed between 1993-96 for another welfare study, and who were on CalWORKs at any time in 1998.

Appendix A(continued)

THE PRECARIOUS FAMILIES STUDY (*CONTINUED*)

The Sentinel Families Study is an in-depth qualitative study of approximately 20 families in Alameda County. These families receive monthly in-home visits over a one year period, being interviewed along similar themes to those covered by the telephone survey, yet in much greater depth.

Data Linking. The final component involves linking county administrative data, survey data, and foster care data. Comparisons of the incidence of child welfare involvement among the children in the sample before and after the implementation of CalWORKs welfare reforms will be made.

CALWORKS MAPPING PROJECT

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Publication Date: February, 2001

MTC created a series of maps showing the density of the home locations of CalWORKs recipients, location of potential job sites, licensed child care facilities, subsidized housing sites, job training locations, major medical facilities, BART stations and AC Transit routes and bus stops. The purpose of this effort is to understand how the existing transit services meet the needs of CalWORKs participants in the county. Maps were originally created in 1998, and were updated late 2000.

APPENDIX B

*E*ND NOTES

Background

¹Carrying out the mandates of welfare reforms has brought about some major shifts in the way the Social Services Agency and others do business:

- the type, range and quantity of services has increased;
- client needs have a more prominent place in service provision;
- new services are created to address unmet needs;
- collaborations and partnerships with other agencies and community organizations have been forged;
- there is a new emphasis on client outcomes, especially self-sufficiency;
- there are new models of service provision, for example, Self Sufficiency Centers and community collaboratives, and,
- the agency is becoming more proactive, anticipating client needs and instituting programs before problems arise.

There are services offered to those with substance abuse problems, mental health problems and issues of domestic violence. People who fail to comply with the rules are targeted to determine what problems might underlie their non-compliant behavior. And, SSA is beginning to address issues of job retention, job changes, and career and educational development to help working clients achieve self-sufficiency and not just a job.

Most recently, the agency has launched a campaign called “Beat the Clock” to identify, notify and assist those who will be timing out (running up against the 60 month time limits) in January 2003.

Education

¹As has been the case with almost any kind of standardized testing, there is not universal acceptance of the STAR program and the SAT 9 test as an equitable way of measuring achievement or for receiving rewards based on API gains. For example, a full page ad from Berkeley teachers appeared in the April 21, 2002 edition of The Oakland Tribune . The ad condemned the use of the test as “racially, culturally and socio-economically biased, unfair, and inappropriate for our students”. At the end of April 2002, the state Board of Education replaced the SAT 9 exam with the California Achievement Test.

Economics

¹Poverty data were taken from two different data sources, one for 1999 and one for the years 1990 through 1998.

The prior years come from the Census Bureau’s Small Area Income and Poverty Estimation (SAIPE) program. Given that the census will be distributing poverty data eventually, the SAIPE program did not make estimates for 1999. While 1999 does come from a different data source, it appears to be following the trends already established.

Appendix B (continued)

Safety

The primary reason official statistics on mortality have such a long lag time is to allow for as much detail as possible about why and how children died to be collected. Data from many sources must be gathered and a team of people must concur about how to categorize the cause and manner of death. A preliminary cause of death may be changed once information is processed and there is joint decision-making. With that information, committees like the Child Death Review Committee, can plan appropriate prevention strategies.

It's to be expected that those official numbers will vary from what is reported here. The figures we present here may not be exact or replicable, but we think they are reasonable approximations.