Orange County 2010

COMMUNITY INDICATORS

2010

For more than a decade, the Orange County Community Indicators report has tracked quality of life issues in Orange County including our business climate, community health, education and public safety, and our valuable natural environment. In these tumultuous and challenging economic times, it is no surprise that conditions are rapidly changing.

Under these circumstances, it's more essential than ever to examine the long-range perspective provided over time by the Community Indicators. A closer look reveals a foundation for discussion of critical issues that will shape the future of Orange County. For example, this year's Special Feature provides a 10-year retrospective of key indicators. It offers readers an opportunity to reflect on the many important achievements and milestones of the past decade, as well as to examine how to best maintain our quality of life.

Moving forward, we will continue to focus on the fundamental, long-term attributes of a strong regional economy, including workforce development, closing educational achievement gaps among our students and communities, and adequate housing. While job losses in 2009 hurt Orange County's business climate, housing affordability improved, which is a critical component of community health. Further, technology and innovation remains a stronghold of the Orange County economy; a defining force of our past, present, and future.

And of great importance during these difficult financial times will be the strength of the County's nonprofit sector. More families will need help and nonprofit organizations will need more support as they work to increase their efficiencies and outreach to corporations and individuals.

We hope this report offers context and perspective for our community as we aim for an ever-improving Orange County. On behalf of the Children and Families Commission of Orange County, the County of Orange, and the Orange County Business Council, I welcome your feedback and look forward to a promising and productive year in 2010.

Michael M. Ruane
Project Director

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction	**2**	
County Profile	**3**	
Special Features	**10**	Orange County Community Indicators: A Decade in Review
	16	Orange County Sustainability
	17	Renewable Energy
	18	Green Jobs
Economic and Business Climate	**20**	Business Climate
	21	Tourism-Related Spending and Jobs
	22	World Trade
	23	Cost of Living
	24	Per Capita Income
	25	Employment by Industry Clusters
	26	Housing Demand
	27	Housing Affordability
	28	Rental Affordability
	29	Mobility
	30	Transit
Technology and Innovation	**32**	High-Tech Cluster Diversity
	33	Internet Access
	34	Venture Capital and Patent Grants
	35	Technology Workforce Preparation
	36	Technology-Related Degrees
Education	**38**	Career Preparation
	39	Educational Attainment
	40	College Readiness
	41	Academic Performance
	42	English Learners
Community Health and Prosperity	**44**	Prenatal Care
	45	Leading Causes of Death for Children Under Five
	46	Vaccine-Preventable Disease and Immunization Rates
	47	Pediatric Asthma ◆
	48	Physical Fitness of Children
	49	Child Care Quality and Affordability ◆
	50	Family Income Security
	51	Family Housing Security
	52	Health Insurance Coverage ◆
	53	Wellbeing of Older Adults ◆
	54	Mental Health ◆
	55	Substance Abuse
	56	Health Status
Public Safety	**58**	Family Safety
	59	Juvenile Crime
	60	Crime Rate
	61	Gang-Related Crime
	62	Hate Crime
Environment	**64**	Coastal Water Quality
	65	Parks and Trails
	66	Solid and Household Hazardous Waste
	67	Air Quality
	68	Water Use and Supply
Civic Engagement	**70**	Voter Participation ◆
	71	Special Election Results
	72	Nonprofits
Acknowledgements and Sources	**76**	

◆ Data for at least one element of this indicator is updated every two years or more.

Introduction

The purpose of the Orange County Community Indicators report is to inform and inspire community members, policymakers, and business leaders working to make Orange County the best it can be. Released annually since 2000, the report tracks key countywide trends that allow residents to evaluate the critical factors which contribute to sustaining community vitality, as well as a healthy economy, environment, and populace.

Indicator Selection Criteria

Good indicators are objective measurements that reflect how a community is doing. They reveal whether key community attributes are improving, worsening, or remaining constant. The indicators selected for inclusion in this report:

- Reflect broad countywide interests which impact a significant percentage of the population
- Illustrate fundamental factors that underlie long-term regional health
- Can be easily understood and accepted by the community
- Are statistically measurable and contain data that is both reliable and available over the long-term
- Measure outcomes, rather than inputs whenever possible
- Fall within the categories of the economy, technology, education, community health and prosperity, public safety, environment, and civic engagement

Peer Regions

To place Orange County's performance in context, many indicators compare the county to the state, nation or other regions. We compare ourselves to our neighbors to better understand our position within the Southern California region and to "peer" regions, both within California and nationwide. Peer regions are considered economic competitors or good barometers for comparison due to the many characteristics we have in common. Each section of the report includes slightly different peer regions based on the characteristics considered relevant to that topic.

As one of the largest counties in the country with both urban and suburban qualities, Orange County is similar to other large metropolitan areas. These areas may consist of single counties as Orange County does, but in most cases they include a collection of counties or local jurisdictions. For example, the San Jose metropolitan area includes both Santa Clara and San Benito Counties. When "San Jose" is referenced, it typically includes data for both counties, but when county-only data was used for comparative analysis, "Santa Clara County" is used to represent that region.

Since the manner in which data is collected and reported varies among data sources, the boundaries of our peers vary as well. Whenever possible, metropolitan areas or divisions, as defined by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget were used. In other instances, the county boundary or some other boundary defined by the data source was used. For additional information regarding the boundaries used for a particular measure, please contact ocindicators@ocgov.com.

County Profile

Orange County is located in the heart of Southern California, with Los Angeles County to the north, San Diego County to the south, and Riverside and San Bernardino Counties to the east. There are currently 34 cities within the county and several unincorporated areas.

POPULATION

Growth

Orange County is the third largest county in California:

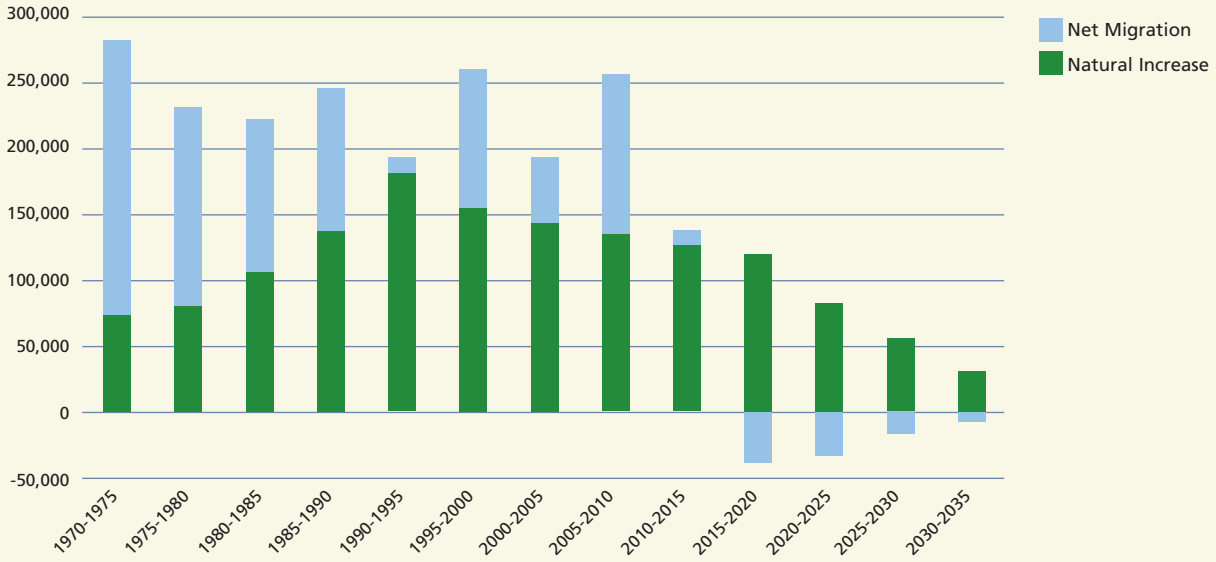
- Orange County's population was 3,139,017 in January 2009, behind Los Angeles (10,393,185) and San Diego (3,173,407).[1]
- Orange County is the fifth largest county in the nation, with more residents than 22 of the country's states, including Iowa, Utah, Nevada, and Idaho.[2]
- At its peak, Orange County's population increased rapidly – an average of 22% per year in the 1950s and 10% per year in the 1960s.
- The average annual increase slowed considerably to 1.8% between 1990 and 2000.
- Between 2008 and 2009, population growth was only 1% per year.[3]

Components of Population Change

Since the 1980s, natural increase (births minus deaths) has outpaced migration as the county's principal source of growth:

- From the 1950s through the 1970s, much of the county's growth stemmed from migration into the county from within the state, as well as from other states (domestic migration).
- International immigration – largely from Asia and Latin America – has also contributed to Orange County's growth in the last 30 years, shifting the county's proportion of foreign born residents from 6% in 1970 to 30% in 2008.[4]
- Between 2007 and 2008, Orange County added 25,869 residents through natural increase and just over 19,500 through international immigration.
- At the same time, the county lost just over 12,000 residents through domestic out-migration, for a net migration increase of approximately 7,500.[5]
- Long-range projections suggest this pattern will continue, with natural increase becoming the sole contributor to growth.[6]

Components of Population Change
Orange County, 1970-2035



Note: Data from 2005 onward are projections.

Sources: Demographic Research Unit at California Department of Finance, Tables E-2 and E-6; Center for Demographic Research at California State University, Fullerton, Orange County Projections 2006

Ethnicity and Age

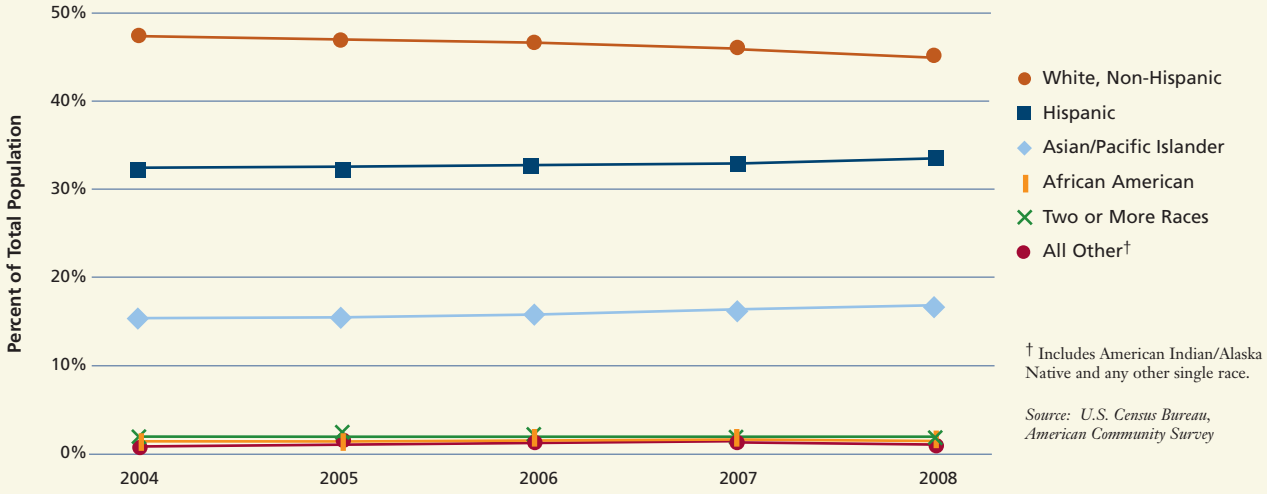
Orange County is a racially and ethnically diverse region:

- 46% of Orange County residents self-identify as Non-Hispanic White, followed by 34% Hispanic (who may be of any race), and 16% Asian/Pacific Islander.
- Slightly less than two percent of residents are African American, another nearly 2% are two or more races, and the remaining 0.6% are American Indian/Alaska Native or any other single race.

Thirty percent (30%) of the people living in Orange County in 2008 were foreign born:

- Among people at least five years of age or older, 44% speak a language other than English at home.
- Of those, the majority speak Spanish (61%) followed by Asian/Pacific Islander languages (28%), and other Indo-European languages (9%). The remaining 2% speak other languages.
- 12% of the total population report that they do not speak English "well" or "at all."[7]

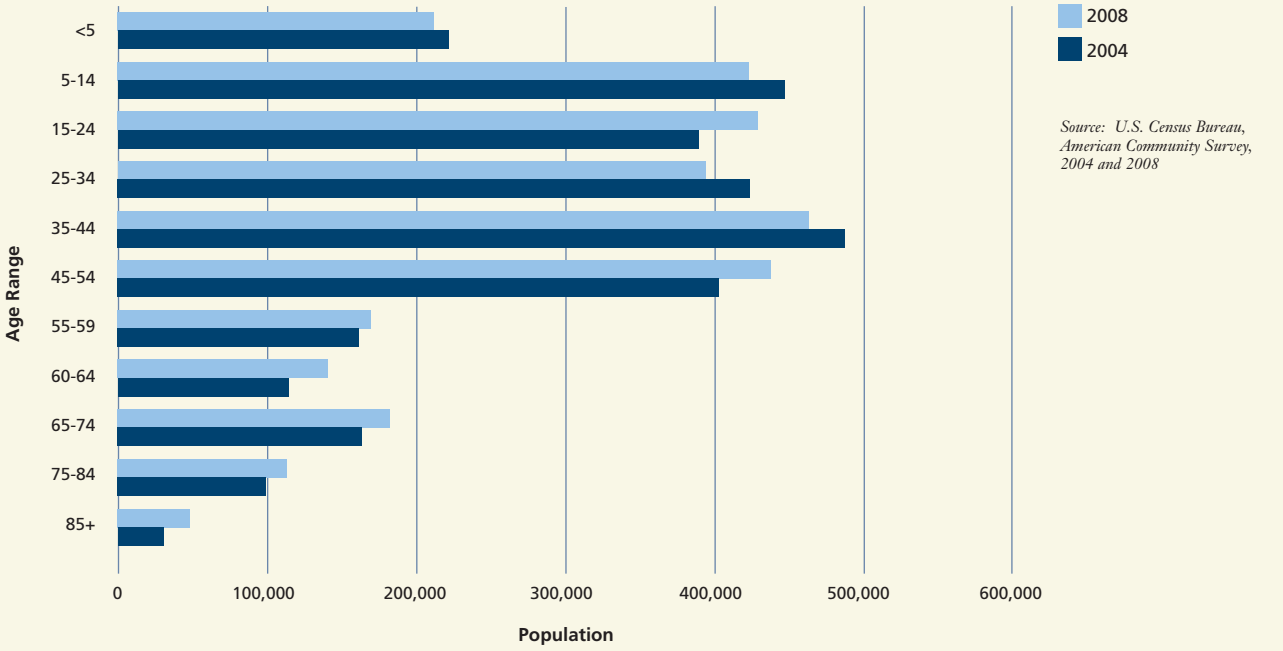
Population by Ethnicity
Orange County, 2004-2008



† Includes American Indian/Alaska Native and any other single race.

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

Population by Age
Orange County, 2004 and 2008



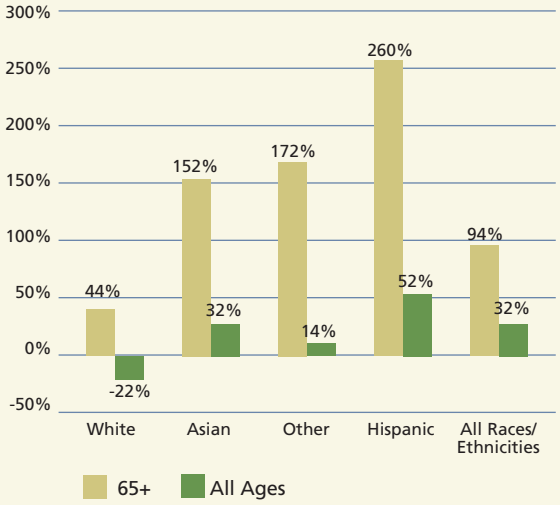
In 2008, Orange County's median age was 36 years:

- 25% of the population was under 18 years and 11% were 65 years and older.[8]
- Projections from 2010 through 2050 anticipate a 94% increase in the older adult population, compared to a 27% increase among all ages.
- As a result, the proportion of the population that is 65 years and older will increase from a projected 11% in 2010 to 22% percent in 2050.[9]

The trend toward an increase in the older adult population has already begun:

- Between 2004 and 2008, there was an increase in the number of residents over age 45.
- At the same time, the number of young adults ages 25 to 44 declined.
- Although the number of teens and young adults ages 15 to 24 rose, there were slightly fewer children and youth under age 15 in 2008 compared to 2004.[10]

Projected Change in Older Adult Population Compared to All Ages, by Race/Ethnicity
Orange County, 2010-2030



Source: State of California, Department of Finance, Population Projections for California and Its Counties 2000-2050, by Age, Gender and Race/Ethnicity, Sacramento, California

EMPLOYMENT

Orange County enjoys a diverse economy, with economic output and employment well-distributed among sectors:

- From 2006 through September 2009, Orange County's total labor force remained over 1.6 million.
- Non-farm industry accounts for 99.8% of the total labor force.
- As of September 2009, the largest labor markets included Trade, Transportation and Utilities (18%), Professional and Business Services (18%), and Leisure and Hospitality (12%).[11]

Small businesses flourish in Orange County's entrepreneurial climate:

- Fewer residents work in large firms (500+ employees) than the statewide average (16% vs. 21% in 2008).
- Since 2002, small firms with 0-4 employees witnessed the fastest employment growth (+18%), adding over 5,000 new jobs.
- Firms with over 100 employees showed the most significant employment declines, shrinking by 45,000 jobs since 2002, despite a gain of 28 firms employing 100 or more.[12]

Orange County's unemployment rate remains below state and national averages:

- Unemployment in 2009 was significantly higher than in the previous 20 years (9.1% as of December 2009).
- However, Orange County's rate has remained well below the state average (12.1%) and on par with the national average (9.7%).[13]

HOUSING

As of January 2009, there were 1,035,491 housing units available to Orange County residents:[14]

- A majority of occupied units are owner-occupied (61%) compared to renter-occupied (39%).[15]
- Approximately half (52%) of the existing housing units in Orange County are single-family detached units.
- In 2008, single-family permits comprised 41% of total permits issued, compared to 31% in 2007.
- Although more than 3,000 residential building permits were issued in 2008, this total represents a decline of 57% between 2007 and 2008.[16]

As of 2008, the average household size in Orange County was 3.0 persons:

- Among the 1,867 counties with 20,000 or more residents, Orange County has the 80th highest average household size in the nation, which is higher than California (2.9) and the U.S. (2.6).[17]
- Santa Ana has the highest household size in the county (4.3) and the 12th highest household size in the nation when compared to cities with more than 20,000 residents.
- In addition to Santa Ana, 10 Orange County cities have household sizes higher than the county average, including Garden Grove (3.7), Buena Park (3.5), Anaheim (3.4), and Westminster (3.4).[18]

DENSITY

Census 2000 data show Orange County is one of the most densely populated areas in the United States, falling 18th among all counties in the nation:[19]

- As of January 2009, Orange County's population density was estimated at 3,932 persons per square mile, an average increase of approximately 1% annually since 2000.[20]
- Unlike Orange County, many otherwise urbanized peer counties (such as San Diego and Los Angeles) have large amounts of undeveloped, rural land which reduce their overall density.
- When comparing Orange County to the cities within our peer regions, Orange County is the ninth densest area.
- In comparison to large urban areas across the country (such as cities, townships, boroughs, and other county subdivisions), Orange County ranks 299th.[21]
- Densities vary by location among Orange County's incorporated areas, from a low of 2,124 in Seal Beach to a high of 13,028 in Santa Ana.
- Population density is much lower in unincorporated areas (432 persons per square mile).[22]

Population Density Ranking
Regional Comparison, 2000

Rank out of all U.S. Urban Areas	Rank out of Selected Peers	City	Persons per Square Mile of Land Area
16	1	San Francisco, CA	16,634
32	2	Boston, MA	12,166
82	3	Los Angeles, CA	7,877
103	4	Minneapolis, MN	6,970
110	5	Seattle, WA	6,717
168	6	San Jose, CA	5,118
233	7	Sacramento, CA	4,189
279	8	San Diego, CA	3,772
299	**9**	**Orange County, CA**	**3,606**
313	10	Dallas, TX	3,470
340	11	Riverside, CA	3,267
363	12	San Bernardino, CA	3,152
435	13	Phoenix, AZ	2,782
465	14	Austin, TX	2,610

Note: U.S. rank includes cities, boroughs, townships, and other county subdivisions with population over 50,000.

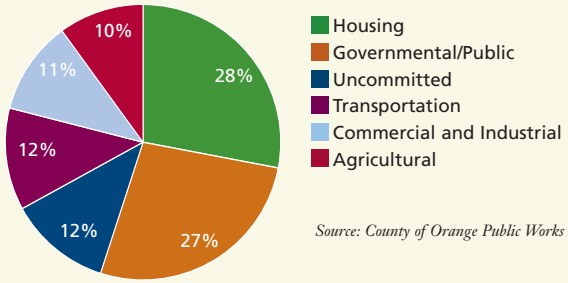
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, GCT-PH1-R: Population, Housing Units, Area, and Density, Census 2000

LAND USE

Orange County covers 798 square miles of land, including 42 miles of coastline:

- A substantial portion (28%) of the county's land is devoted to various types of residential housing.
- About one-tenth of county land is classified as "Uncommitted," meaning it is either vacant or there is no data available.
- Another quarter of the county's land is classified "Governmental or Public," including open space and parks.

Orange County Land Uses, 2007



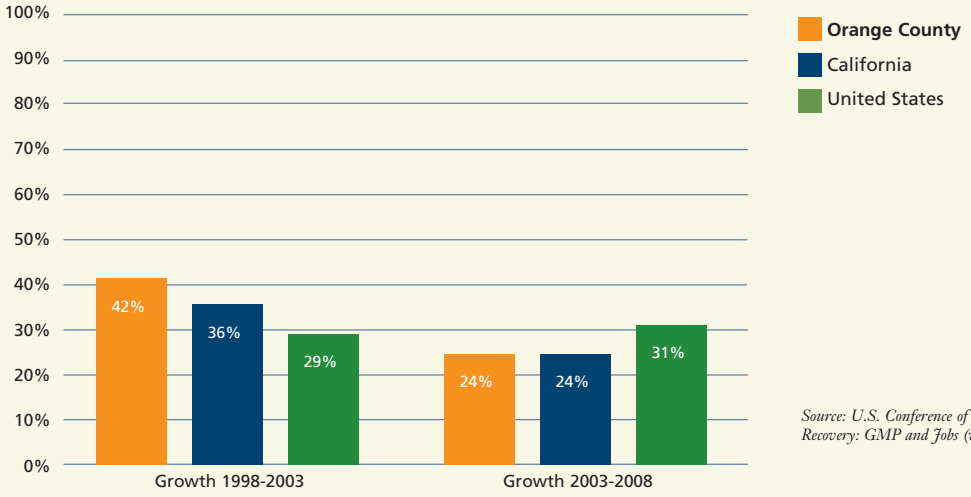
Source: County of Orange Public Works

GROSS METRO PRODUCT

If Orange County were a country, its gross metro product (GMP) in 2008 would rank 45th in the world:

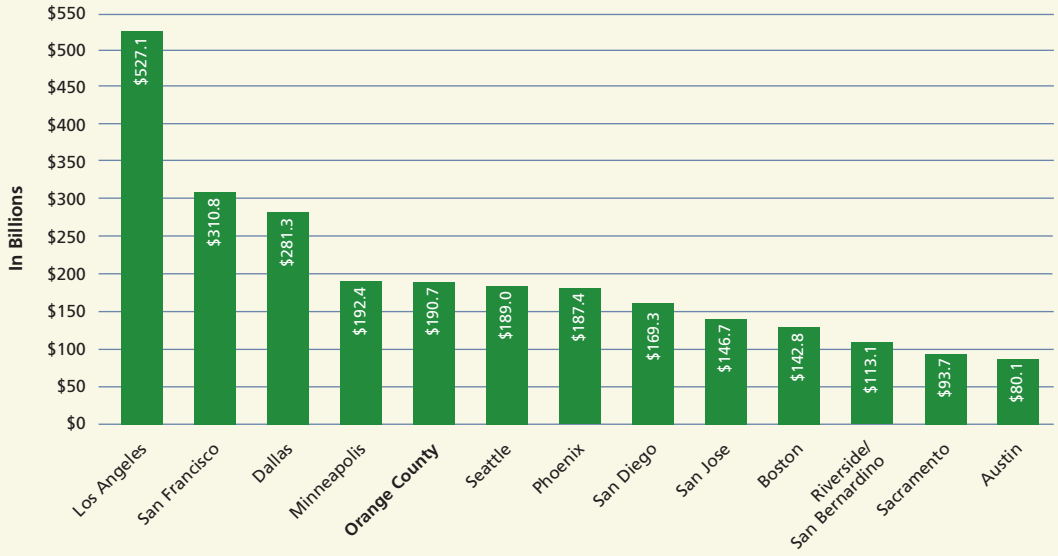
- This is greater than such nations as Singapore, Ukraine, Algeria, and Chile.
- Within the United States, Orange County is the 15th top producing economy in the nation.
- Orange County's GMP ranks fifth among 12 peer regions compared.
- Between 1998 and 2003, Orange County's GMP growth rate was faster than the state and nation, yet in the last five years (between 2003 and 2008) GMP growth has slowed.
- Still, over the past 10 years, Orange County's GMP growth rate (75%) has outpaced the state (69%) and nation (70%).[23]

Gross Metro Product, Five-Year Growth Rates
Orange County, California, and United States, 1998-2003 and 2003-2008



Source: U.S. Conference of Mayors, U.S. Metro Economies, Pace of Economic Recovery: GMP and Jobs (www.usmayors.org/metroeconomies/)

Gross Metro Product
Regional Comparison, 2008



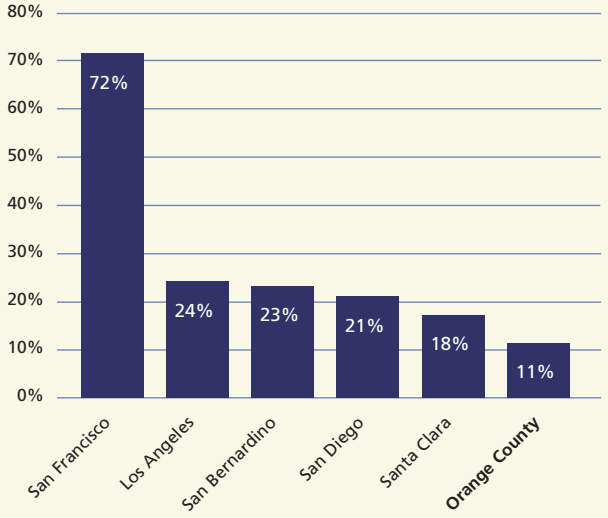
Source: U.S. Conference of Mayors, U.S. Metro Economies, Pace of Economic Recovery: GMP and Jobs (www.usmayors.org/metroeconomies/)

STATE AND LOCAL FINANCES

The County of Orange General Fund receives the lowest share of property tax dollars compared to all counties in the state of California:

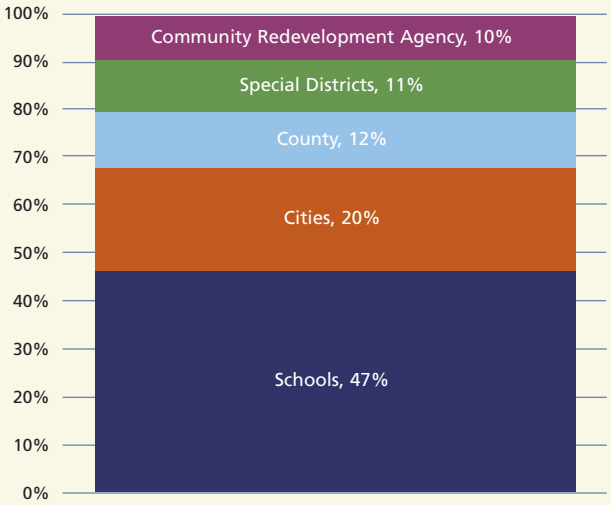
- In Orange County, the largest share of all property taxes supports public schools (47%).
- The next largest proportion goes to Orange County's cities, which share 20% of the typical property tax dollar.
- The County of Orange receives substantially less of the typical property tax dollar (12%) than peers such as San Francisco County (72%) and Los Angeles County (24%).
- Of the 12% received by the County of Orange, 11% goes to the County of Orange General Fund and 1% is earmarked for the Orange County Public Library.[24]

Percent of Each Dollar of Property Tax Collected that Remains in the County General Fund
County Comparison, 2008/09



Source: County of Orange, County Executive Office, Facts & Figures, 2009 (http://bos.ocgov.com/finance/ff2009/pages_frm.asp?OPT=facts_full)

Where the Typical Property Tax Dollar Goes
Orange County, 2008/09



Note: The "County" percentage includes 11% to the County of Orange General Fund and 1% to the Orange County Public Library.

Source: County of Orange, County Executive Office, County Facts & Figures, 2009 (http://bos.ocgov.com/finance/ff2009/pages_frm.asp?OPT=facts_full)

1 California Department of Finance, Demographic Research Unit, Table E-1 (www.dof.ca.gov/research/demographic/reports/)
2 U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates Program, Resident Population Estimates for the 100 Largest U.S. Counties Based on July 1, 2008 Population Estimates: April 1, 2000 to July 1, 2008 (CO-EST2008-07) (www.census.gov/popest/counties/CO-EST2008-07.html); U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates Program, Annual Estimates of the Resident Population for the United States, Regions, States, and Puerto Rico: April 1, 2000 to July 1, 2008 (NST-EST2008-01) (www.census.gov/popest/states/NST-ann-est.html); U.S. Census Bureau (CO-EST2008-ALLDATA)
3 U.S. Census Bureau and California Department of Finance as reported by Center for Demographic Research, California State University, Fullerton, Orange County Progress Report 2009 (www.fullerton.edu/cdr); California Department of Finance, Table E-1 and E-5
4 Center for Demographic Research, California State University, Fullerton, Orange County Progress Report 2009; U.S. Census Bureau, 2008 American Community Survey
5 California Department of Finance, Tables E-2 and E-6
6 Center for Demographic Research, California State University, Fullerton, Orange County Projections 2006
7 U.S. Census Bureau, 2008 American Community Survey
8 U.S. Census Bureau, 2008 American Community Survey
9 State of California, Department of Finance, Population Projections for California and Its Counties 2000-2050, by Age, Gender and Race/Ethnicity, Sacramento, California, July 2007
10 U.S. Census Bureau, 2004 and 2008 American Community Survey; Center for Demographic Research, California State University, Fullerton, Orange County Projections 2006
11 Employment Development Department, Employment by Industry Data for Orange County (www.labormarketinfo.edd.ca.gov/?pageid=166)
12 Employment Development Department, Size of Business Data, 2001-Present (www.labormarketinfo.edd.ca.gov/?PAGEID=138)
13 California Employment Development Department (www.labormarketinfo.edd.ca.gov)
14 California Department of Finance, Table E-5
15 U.S. Census Bureau, 2008 American Community Survey
16 Center for Demographic Research, California State University, Fullerton, Orange County Progress Report 2009
17 U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2008 American Community Survey Three-Year Estimates
18 U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2008 American Community Survey Three-Year Estimates
19 U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000, Table GCT-PH1-R: Population, Housing Units, Area, and Density
20 2009 density calculated from land area data presented in the Orange County Progress Report 2009 by the Center for Demographic Research, California State University, Fullerton and population figures from the California Department of Finance, Table E-1, January 1, 2009 (www.dof.ca.gov/research/demographic/reports/estimates/e-1/2008-09/). Growth since 2000 calculated using U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000, Table GCT-PH1-R: Population, Housing Units, Area, and Density.
21 U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000, Table GCT-PH1-R: Population, Housing Units, Area, and Density
22 Calculated from land area data presented in the Orange County Progress Report 2009 by the Center for Demographic Research, California State University, Fullerton and population figures from the California Department of Finance, Table E-1, January 1, 2009.
23 U.S. Conference of Mayors, U.S. Metro Economies, Pace of Economic Recovery: GMP and Jobs (www.usmayors.org/metroeconomies/)
24 County of Orange, County Executive Office, Orange County Facts & Figures 2009 (http://bos.ocgov.com/finance/ff2009/pages_frm.asp?OPT=facts_full)

Special Features

Orange County's Past Reveals Strengths and Weaknesses

Description of Indicator

This special feature provides a retrospective of key community indicators critical to Orange County's economic success and its ability to sustain a high quality of life over the next decade and beyond. It also highlights important milestones from the past 10 years.

Why is it Important?

Looking back at the past decade provides residents, businesses, and policymakers a long-term perspective on Orange County's economic, environmental, and social health. It enables us to celebrate progress, identify persistent problem areas, and chart a course for the future.

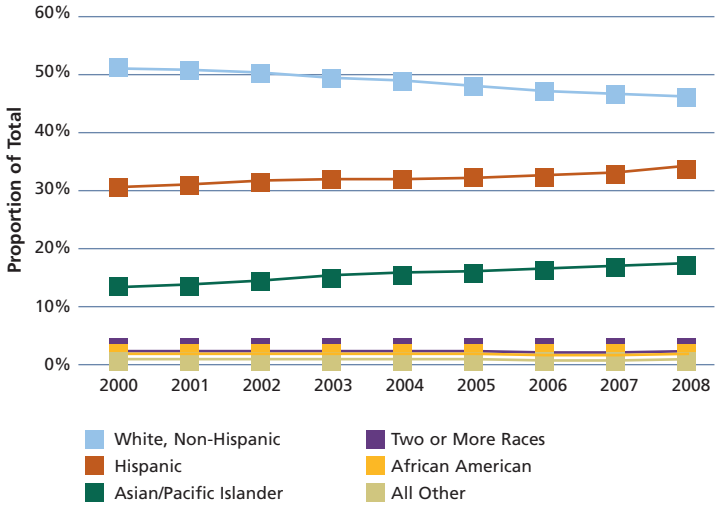
How is Orange County Doing?

Demographics

Demographic trends provide implications for Orange County's economy, efforts to close educational achievement gaps, and civic representation:

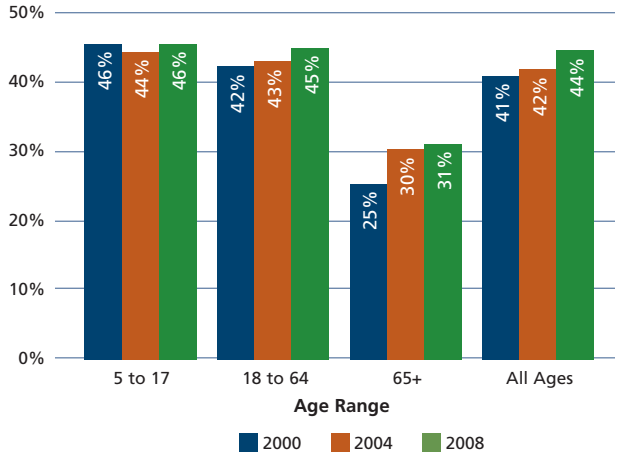
- Orange County's population continues to diversify both racially and ethnically, with no particular race comprising a majority.
- 45% percent of Orange County's adult population speaks a language other than English at home, half of whom are bilingual.
- A racially and ethnically diverse population that is also bilingual provides an advantage for Orange County businesses looking to expand world trade opportunities.
- Within the county, educational achievement gaps between racial and ethnic groups are narrowing – an encouraging trend that should continue (see page 12).
- Orange County's elected representatives and community leaders reflect the county's diverse racial and ethnic composition.

Population by Race/Ethnicity
Orange County, 2000-2008



Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000, Supplementary Survey 2001, American Community Survey 2002-2008 (www.census.gov)

Percent of Residents who Speak a Language Other than English at Home
Orange County, 2000-2008



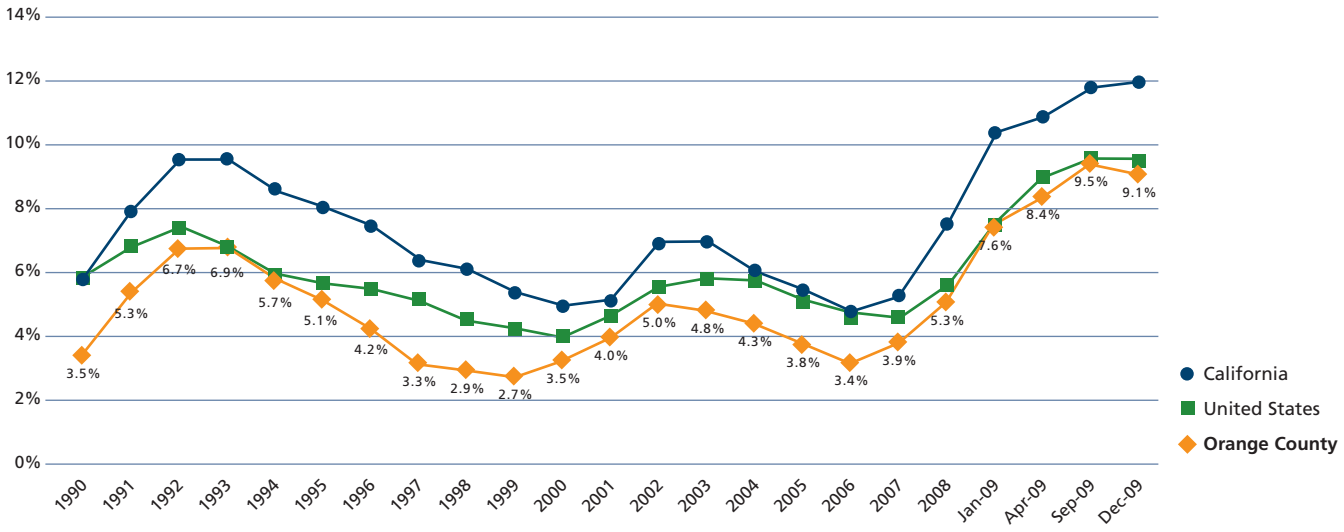
Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000, Supplementary Survey 2001, American Community Survey 2002-2008 (www.census.gov)

Business Climate and Technology

Orange County has felt the effects of the economic recession:

- After 10 years of unemployment rates typically lower than the state and U.S. averages, Orange County's unemployment rate spiked to 9.5% in 2009, which is similar to the rest of the nation.
- Further, what leading economists are calling the "Great Recession" hit Orange County early and especially hard, as Orange County was home to countless mortgage brokers, particularly in the sub-prime area.
- High costs of doing business continue to have a negative impact on Orange County's overall business climate. In order to maintain an economic edge over its peers, Orange County must address the high costs associated with conducting business or work diligently to preserve other quality of life assets that make it a desirable place to live and work; such as high-quality educational institutions, low crime, and cultural and recreational opportunities.

Unemployment
Annual Average Rate, 1990-2008 and Jan/Apr/Sep/Dec 2009



Sources: California Employment Development Department, Employment by Industry Data for Orange County and California; California Employment Development Department, Historical Labor Force Information for the United States (www.labormarketinfo.edd.ca.gov/?pageid=1006)

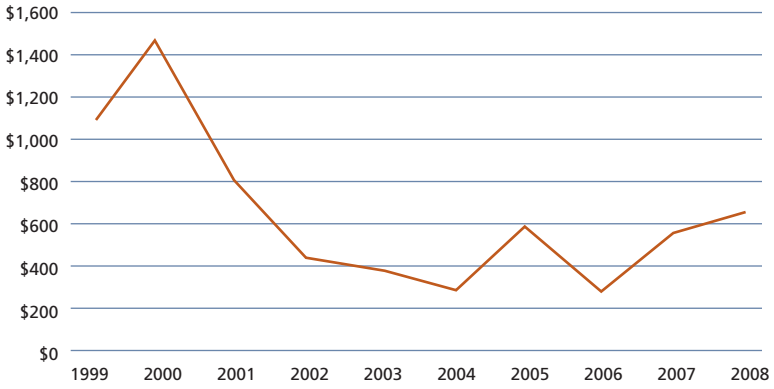
Orange County's high-tech sector remains a diverse and driving force of our local economy:

- Over the last 10 years, Orange County's number of high-tech clusters was among the highest of all peers compared.
- Venture capital investment appears to be growing again after a sharp decline in the first half of the decade. However, venture capital in the first half of 2009 is below the pace of 2008, suggesting peaks and valleys in future investment.

World trade opportunities have expanded:

- Total Orange County exports worldwide nearly doubled between 1999 and 2007.

Venture Capital Investment
Orange County, 1999-2008



Source: PricewaterhouseCoopers/Thomson Venture Reuters/NVCA Moneytree Venture Capital Profiles (http://vx.thomsonib.com/VxComponent/static/stats/2009q3/metro_2112.html)

Orange County's jobs-to-housing balance is finally nearing a healthy ratio. However, it is due to significant job losses, not notable increases in the number of new housing units built:

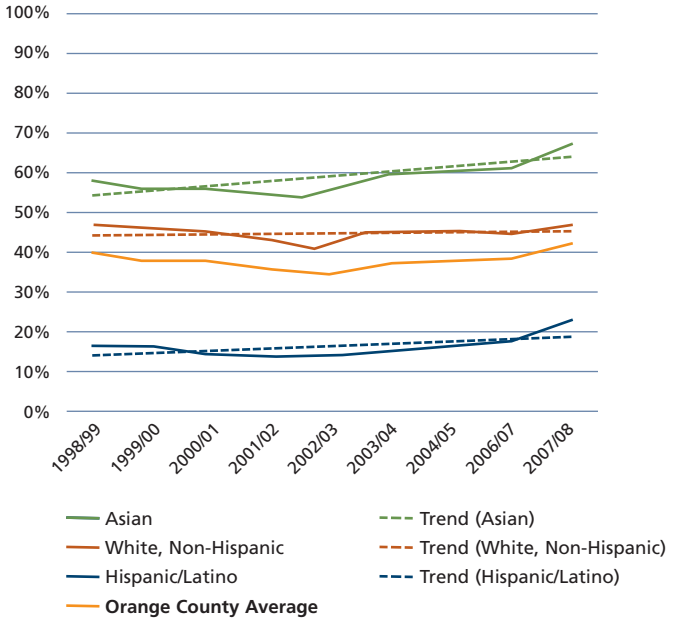
- In 2009, only 40% of renters could afford fair market rent for a 2-bedroom unit based on an analysis of the hourly wage a resident needs to afford the median rent in the Orange County market and typical hourly wages (see Rental Affordability).
- Also in 2009, 53% of households in Orange County could afford an existing single-family detached home that was priced at 85% of median (or $425,200).[1]
- This is the highest level of affordability in a decade.
- As the economy recovers, new housing units will need to keep pace with job growth to avoid repeating history when very high housing costs forced residents to move outside of Orange County to find affordable housing.

Education

Academic achievement is improving throughout the county and narrowing educational gaps:

- The Orange County average Academic Performance Index (API) score increased 15% in the past decade.
- The gap between the highest and lowest performing school districts – Irvine Unified and Santa Ana Unified – is closing.
- Since 2000, Santa Ana Unified improved its API scores by 43%.
- On average, approximately 40% of students countywide take the courses necessary to be eligible for UC/CSU enrollment. This percentage has changed little over the past 10 years.
- However, Hispanic students' college eligibility climbed 38%, while Asian students' increased 14% over the past decade.

UC/CSU Eligibility by Race/Ethnicity
Orange County, 1999-2008

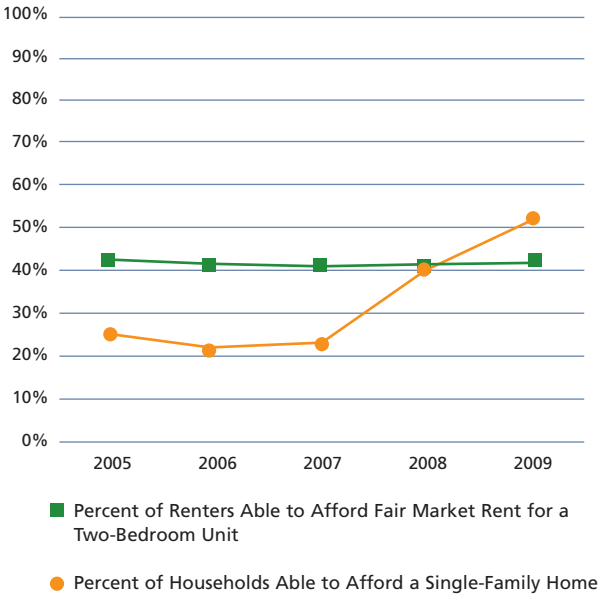


Note: The 2005/06 data is excluded due to unreliable results for Hispanic students.

Source: California Department of Education, DataQuest (http://data1.cde.ca.gov/dataquest/)

[1] In 2009, the minimum household income needed to purchase a median-priced single-family home in Orange County was approximately $72,600.

Percent Able to Afford Rent or a Home
Orange County, 2005-2009

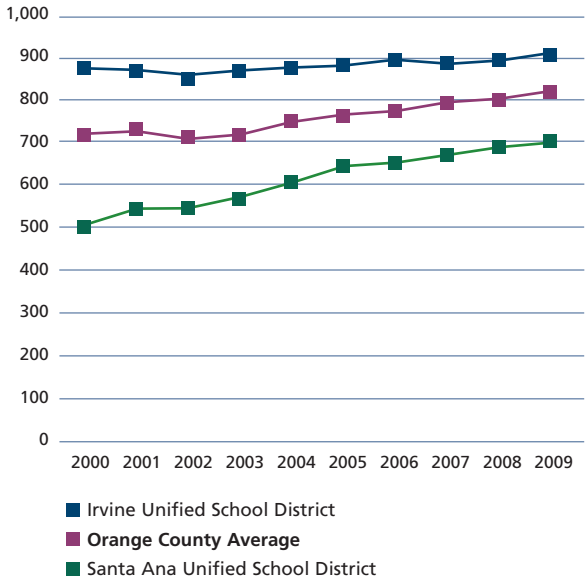


Note: Data is shown from 2005 due to unreliability in rental data in prior years and because the California Association of Realtors changed their affordability measurement criteria in 2003.

Sources: National Low Income Housing Coalition; California Association of Realtors

English Learners
For the past decade, just under a third of Orange County's student body has been comprised of English Learners (those who do not speak English fluently). This proportion was consistently higher than all peers compared except Los Angeles until 2008/09, when Orange County surpassed Los Angeles with the highest percentage of English Learners among peers.

Average Academic Performance Index Scores
Orange County, 2000-2009



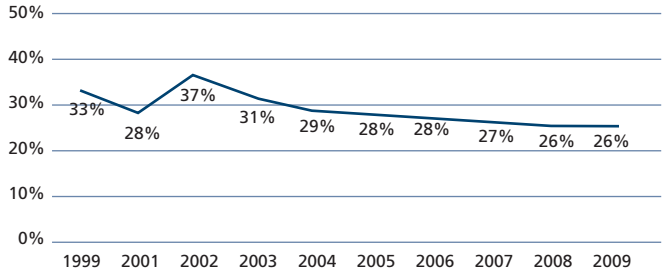
Source: California Department of Education, DataQuest (http://data1.cde.ca.gov/dataquest/)

Community Health and Prosperity

Both the age and health of our population impacts the societal costs of health care and human service systems:

- In 2008, our population was aging faster than the state and nation, with a median age of 36.
- Early in the decade, prenatal care rates rose significantly, but then leveled off and are starting to trend downward.
- Children's fitness is slowing improving. The percent of students with unhealthy body composition (generally, overweight) has declined since 2000.[1] Still, over a quarter of students tested are considered to have unhealthy weights.
- Orange County has achieved the Healthy People 2010 objectives for reducing multiple causes of death – suggesting our population is healthier overall than 10 years ago.[2]

Percent of 5th, 7th, and 9th Grade Students with Unhealthy Body Composition[1]
Orange County, 1999-2009



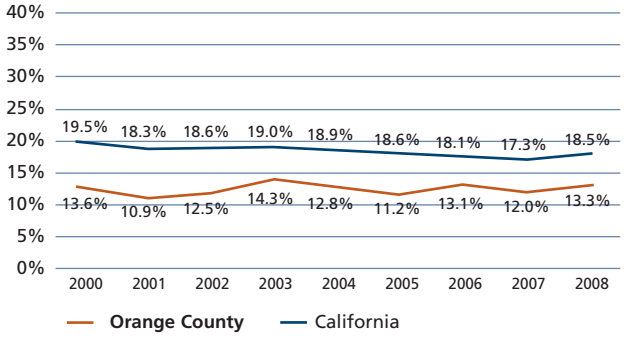
Source: California Department of Education (http://data1.cde.ca.gov/dataquest)

Note: The Fitnessgram began in 1999, but was not conducted in 2000. The wide variation in results between 1999, 2001, and 2002 likely reflect refinements in test administration.

For families living on the edge financially, the outlook has not changed much over the past 10 years:

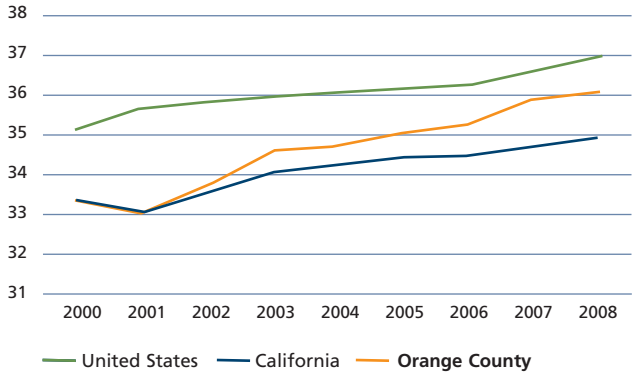
- The percent of Orange County families living in poverty hovers around 13%, which is consistently lower than the state average.
- During the 2008/09 school year, the number of Orange County children with family incomes low enough to be eligible for free or reduced-price school meals increased sharply – up 8% in one year – suggesting these numbers are likely to increase.

Children Age 18 and Under Living in Poverty
Orange County, 2000-2008



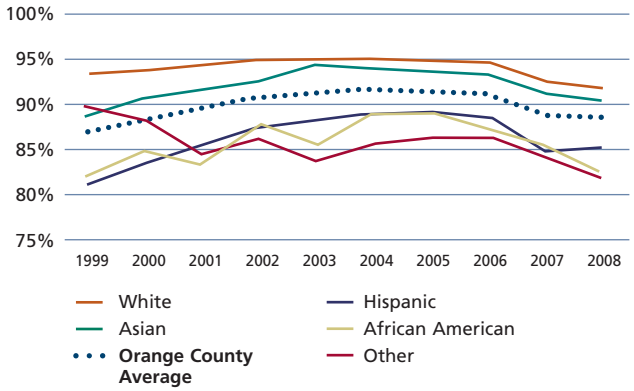
Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000, Supplementary Survey 2001, American Community Survey 2002-2008 (www.census.gov)

Median Age
United States, California, and Orange County, 2000-2008



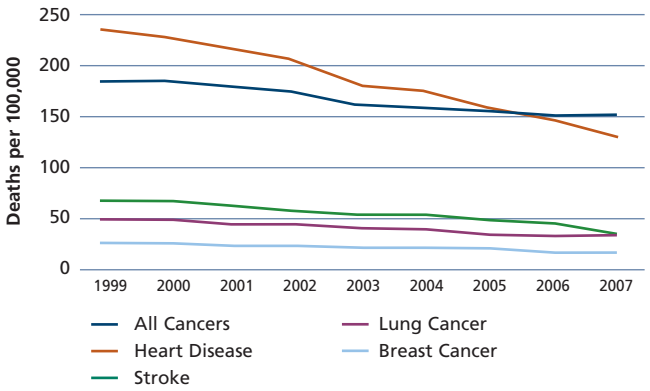
Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000, Supplementary Survey 2001, American Community Survey 2002-2008 (www.census.gov)

Percent of Mothers Receiving Early Prenatal Care by Race and Ethnicity
Orange County, 1999-2008



Sources: County of Orange Health Care Agency, Epidemiology and Assessment; California Department of Public Health

Adjusted Death Rates for Commonly Measured Causes
Orange County, 1999-2007



Source: California Department of Public Health, County Health Status Profiles

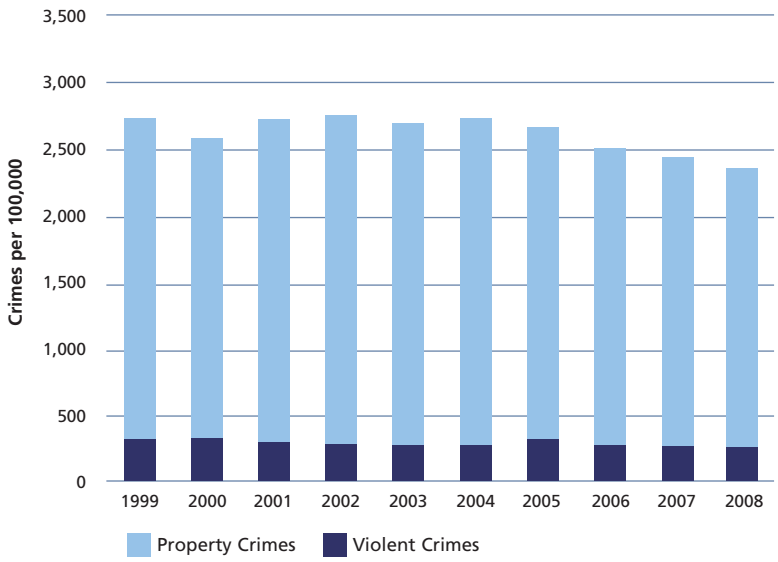
[1] A small percentage (estimated at roughly 2%) of body composition proportions include underweight youth. Results by grade were aggregated and averaged.
[2] See Prenatal Care for a definition of Healthy People 2010.

Public Safety

Orange County's long-term record of public safety is a positive hallmark for businesses, residents, and visitors alike:

- Orange County's already low crime rate declined further since 2004.
- If there is a negative in the public safety arena, it is gang-related crime, which accounts for an increasing proportion of all serious crime.
- Between 2000 and 2008, gang-related felony filings rose by over 50%.

Crime Rate
Orange County, 1999-2008



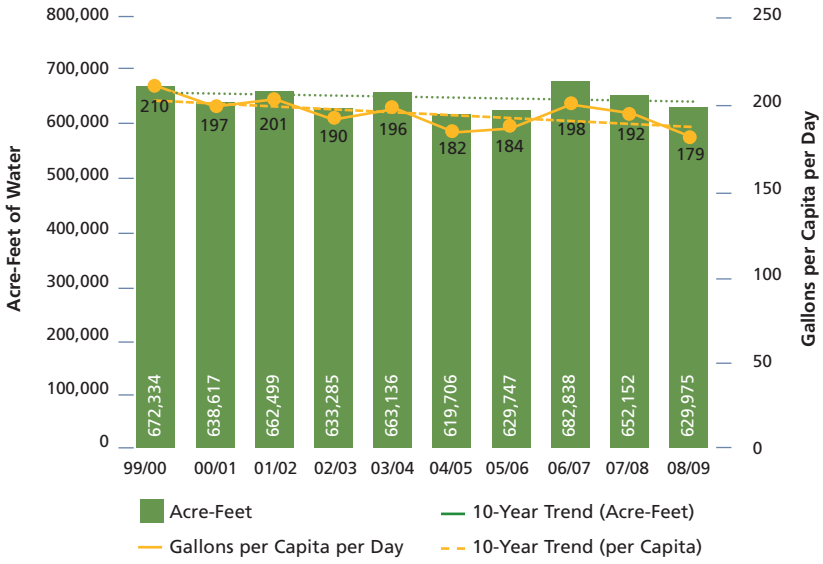
Source: Federal Bureau of Investigation, Uniform Crime Reporting Program (www.fbi.gov/ucr/ucr.htm)

Environment

The availability of water is critical to a community's ability to grow and thrive:

- While Orange County's population has grown, overall water consumption has been steady.
- The resulting good news is that 10-year per capita water use is trending slightly downward, even during one of the longest-lasting droughts in the western United States.

Urban Water Usage
Orange County, 2000-2009



Sources: Municipal Water District of Orange County; Orange County Water District; California Department of Finance (Tables E-4)

Conclusion

The last few years serve as a reminder of how quickly and thoroughly circumstances can change and the proof is evident in certain economic indicators. In fact, given the radical transformation of our economy and the lag time in reported data, much of the economic data was not particularly insightful for the future and therefore was not used in this feature.

On the other hand, creating positive change in some areas is a slow and steady process, as seen in education and health indicators. The challenge for the future will be to remain vigilant and not let short-term setbacks erode long-term gains.

The trends of the last decade show us how interconnected indicators can be and that sometimes a negative condition can also have a postive outcome. For example, recent declines in employment and the housing market have had a constructive effect on one of Orange County's most persistent problems – housing affordability. Yet, these same declines have had harmful impacts on the county's most vulnerable residents. Environmental indicators also show similar trends. The severe and persistent drought has encouraged water conservation, while economic conditions have led to fewer pounds of garbage being dumped in our landfills.

Today, the opportunity exists to sustain the gains and minimize the losses that we have experienced. This means making strides in housing affordability and ending homelessness, capitalizing on our diversity and technological strengths, and continuing to narrow academic achievement gaps. It means keeping water consumption and garbage generation down even when water is plentiful and the economy is thriving.

Maintaining and improving our quality of life in good times and bad will be the sign of a healthy, vibrant Orange County that will be sustainable well into the future.

SIGNIFICANT MILESTONES

2000

February 2000: Children and Families Commission of Orange County begins allocating Proposition 10 tobacco tax revenues for children's health and early learning programs, starting with four Early Action Programs and launching "Bridges for Newborns" and "School Readiness" programs in partnership with hospitals and school districts.

February 2000: First Orange County Workforce Investment Board is appointed to help develop a competitive workforce for local businesses through "One-Stop Career Centers" that assist job seekers with training and skill building.

2001

2002

March 2002: A majority of Orange County voters approve a metropolitan park for the reuse of the Marine Corps Air Station, El Toro.

January 2002: *No Child Left Behind Act* of 2001 went into effect setting standards-based education reform for measurable goals to improve educational outcomes tied to federal funding and include homeless students in state academic assessment, reporting, and accountability systems.

2003

May 2002: Metrolink 91 Line opens from Riverside to Fullerton to Downtown LA, the first new line since 1995.

2004

November 2004: Proposition 63 passes, increasing revenues for mental health services.

May 2003: "Tustin Legacy" breaks ground, beginning residential and commercial development at the former Tustin Marine Corps Air Station.

2005

2006

November 2006: Renewed Measure M Transportation Ordinance and Investment Plan passes with 69.7% of the vote, extending the 1/2 cent sales tax dedicated to transportation improvements in Orange County.

October 2006: 37,000 acres of parks and open space in Orange County are designated as a National Natural Landmark.

2007

January 2007: The new "remain-over-night" commercial aircraft parking area breaks ground at John Wayne Airport. This is the first component of the Airport Improvement Program, which will ultimately include a new terminal, a new parking structure, and several updates to the existing terminal.

2008

November 2008: California voters pass Proposition 1A to fund the California High-Speed Rail project which will traverse the state from San Diego to Sacramento and San Francisco, with planned station links in Anaheim and Irvine.

2009

August 2009: Construction of the new John Wayne Airport terminal and parking structure began.

2010

January 2010: Orange County Board of Supervisors approves the "10-Year Plan to End Homelessness," developed by a collaborative that includes the Children and Families Commission and the Orange County Business Council.

Tracking Current and Emerging Trends in Sustainability

Description of Indicator

This indicator discusses ways in which to measure the sustainability of Orange County's quality of life. It introduces two new indicators – Renewable Energy and Green Jobs – as initial components of an overall strategy designed to assess the county's sustainability.

Why is it Important?

Improving and sustaining Orange County's quality of life involves more than installing solar panels and implementing recycling programs. It requires thinking about how a community functions as a whole, and considers the interconnections between economic, environmental, and social factors. It is critical for sustainability to remain a central focus in order to ensure the long-term resilience of Orange County's economy.

How is Orange County Doing?

The 2009 Orange County Community Indicators report highlighted the need for a measure of our sustainability. Over the past year, representatives from the Urban Land Institute, Orange County/Inland Empire District Council (ULI) have worked on identifying potential tools for measuring sustainability.

Indicies Versus Indicators

There are a range of tools that can be used to assess community sustainability, each with a different set of metrics, goals, and intended audiences. Examples include the *Dow Jones Sustainability Index*, the *Global Climate Prosperity Scorecard*, and the *Green Jobs Report*. Rather than choosing one sustainability index tool, the ULI Sustainable Communities Initiative Council recommended employing as many "sustainable measuring sticks" or indicators as are appropriate and practical via a flexible and scalable system, which is:

- Expandable based on available data
- Appropriate to Orange County
- Responsive to technological advances, legislation, codes, and standards

Recommended Improvements

Since its inception, the Community Indicators report has included indicators addressing Orange County's economic, environmental, and social health. While the current report measures sustainability through existing indicators, it can be improved by:

- Adding measures as data becomes available
- Modifying or deleting those that do not contribute to a better understanding of Orange County's long-term quality of life
- More fully recognizing and promoting an interconnected view of all indicators

New Indicators

In the 2010 report, the ULI Sustainable Communities Initiative Council identified two additional indicators:

- Renewable Energy
- Green Jobs

These indicators, which are included on the following pages, will be used to broaden the assessment of Orange County's sustainability.

Looking Forward

In the future, we anticipate refining and adding indicators based on available technology and the state of economic and environmental data. The desire is to stimulate discussion and suggest new ways of thinking about measuring Orange County's sustainability – with the eventual goal to develop a composite picture of sustainability that balances environmental, social, and economic benefits and costs.

Room for Improvement in Renewable Energy Production

Description of Indicator

This indicator assesses the percentage of electricity in Orange County generated from renewable sources using data from the county's three major electricity suppliers.[1] It also measures grid-connected solar installations completed through the California Solar Initiative (CSI).[2]

Why is it Important?

Generating energy from renewable sources reduces a community's impact on the environment. Home and business energy use contributes significantly to greenhouse gas emissions, and creates supply challenges when the sources are nonrenewable. An increasing proportion of carbon-neutral, renewable sources in Orange County's energy portfolio – together with reduced auto emissions – would help the county meet the statewide greenhouse gas reduction goals mandated by Assembly Bill 32 and Senate Bill 375, while also contributing to improved air quality.

How is Orange County Doing?

The amount of Orange County's electricity generated from renewable sources ranges from 6% to 16%, depending on the provider:

- Southern California Edison provides most of Orange County's electricity, 16% of which is from renewable energy sources.
- Additionally, San Diego Gas & Electric serves many south county residents (6% renewable energy) and the City of Anaheim has its own utility (7% renewable energy).
- In comparison, California and U.S. averages for renewable energy sources are 11% and 9%, respectively.
- The California Renewables Portfolio Standard requires the state's investor-owned utilities to increase procurement from eligible renewable sources to 20% by the end of 2010.[3]

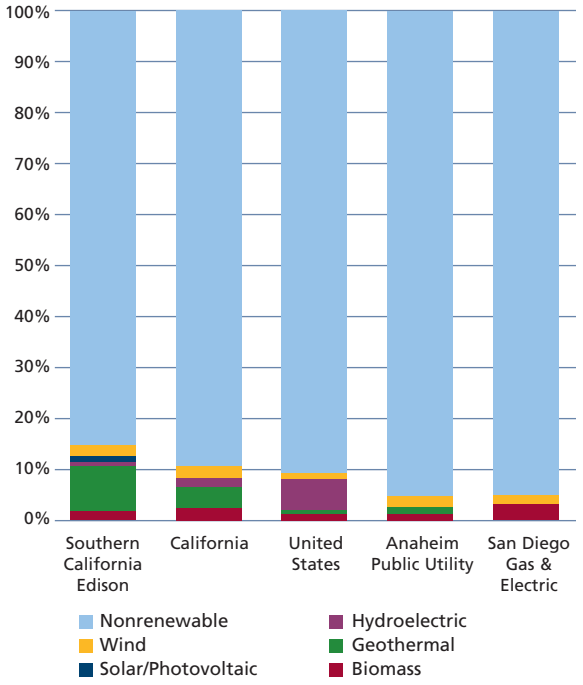
Capacity from Orange County's recent grid-connected solar installations represents 4% of the state's total:

- Between 2007 and 2009, Orange County residents, businesses, governments, and nonprofit organizations installed 5,276 kilowatts of grid-connected solar capacity.
- On a kilowatts per capita basis, Orange County ranks sixth among peer regions compared within California.

Renewable Sources Increasing

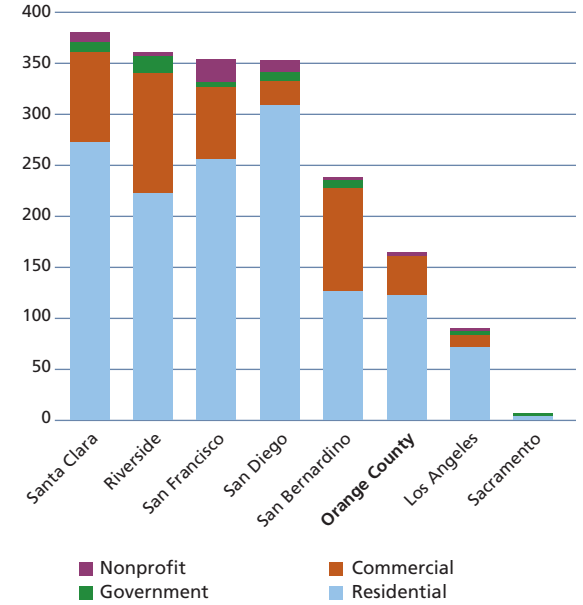
According to the California Public Utilities Commission, California's three largest utilities (San Diego Gas & Electric Co., Southern California Edison, and Pacific Gas & Electric Co.) approved contracts for 5,451 megawatts of renewable power in 2009, the most green energy to be added to the state's electric grid since regulators started keeping track in 2002. Two of these utilities provide power to Orange County: San Diego Gas & Electric added 400 megawatts of renewable electricity generation in 2009, and Southern California Edison added 1,577 megawatts. Further, in 2009 San Diego Gas & Electric received approval for the Sunrise Powerlink that, when completed, will allow for the transmission of 1,100 megawatts of solar, geothermal, and wind power into the state's electric grid. Anaheim Public Utilities' power mix for 2009, submitted to the California Energy Commission (CEC), also shows an increase of renewable energy, from 7% renewable energy sources in 2008 to 11% in 2009. The largest increases are projected for geothermal and wind power.

Percent of Electricity Generated from Renewable Sources
Orange County Utilities, California, and United States, 2008



Sources: Anaheim Public Utilities (www.anaheim.net); California Public Utilities Commission (www.cpuc.ca.gov); San Diego Gas & Electric (www.sdge.com); Southern California Edison (www.sce.com); U.S. Energy Information Administration (www.eia.doe.gov)

Completed Grid-Connected Solar Installations, Kilowatts per Capita
County Comparison, 2009



Source: California Solar Initiative/California Solar Statistics (www.californiasolarstatistics.ca.gov)

[1] Because electricity is generated by individual utilities and service territories do not always match jurisdictional boundaries, data are not available for the county as a whole.
[2] The California Solar Initiative (CSI) is part of the Go Solar California campaign, a $3.3 billion ratepayer-funded effort that aims to install 3,000 megawatts of new grid-connected solar over the next decade.
[3] Eligible renewable energy sources defined by the California Renewables Portfolio Standard include biomass, biodiesel, fuel cells using renewable fuels, digester gas, geothermal, landfill gas, municipal solid waste, ocean wave and ocean thermal, tidal current, solar photovoltaic and solar thermal, small hydroelectric, and wind. (www.cpuc.ca.gov)

Green Job Growth Faster than State

Description of Indicator

This indicator assesses Orange County's job growth in industries that provide products and services related to alternative energy, resource conservation, and pollution reduction – referred to as "green jobs."[1]

Why is it Important?

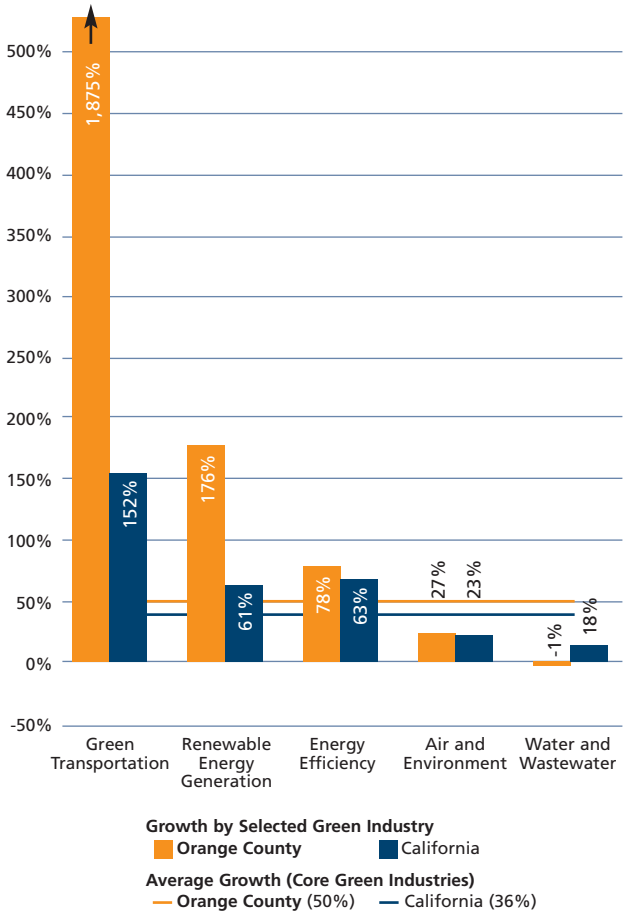
Jobs related to using alternative energy, conserving natural resources, and reducing pollution have increasing economic and environmental value. Statewide, between 1995 and 2008, green jobs increased nearly three times faster than total jobs. Between 2007 and 2008, green jobs increased by 5%, while total jobs fell by 1%. In addition, growth in green industries supports economic resiliency, environmental health, and national security.

How is Orange County Doing?

Between 1995 and 2008, employment grew substantially in green industries:

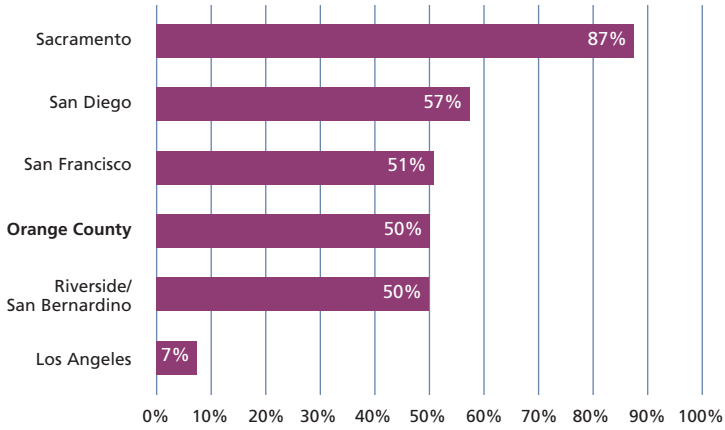
- Employment in 15 core green industries grew by 50% in Orange County, which is faster than the California average of 36%.
- Orange County's employment concentration was higher than the statewide average in four out of five industries selected for regional comparison.
- With job growth of 1,875%, Green Transportation is Orange County's fastest growing green sector – reflecting a high degree of specialization in alternative fuels, as well as the vehicles and parts necessary to use them.
- Green Transportation was also the fastest growing sector for California, yet statewide growth was considerably smaller (152%).
- Orange County's next fastest growing sector was Energy Generation (176%), followed by Energy Efficiency (78%).
- The only sector to experience employment declines during this period was Water and Wastewater, which fell 1%.

Employment Change in Selected Green Industries
Orange County and California, 1995-2008



Source: Next 10 (www.nextten.org/next10/pdf/Many_Shades_of_Green_1209.pdf)

Overall Job Growth in Core Green Industries
Regional Comparison, 1995-2008



Source: Next 10 (www.nextten.org/next10/pdf/Many_Shades_of_Green_1209.pdf)

Core Green Economy Segments

- Advanced Materials
- Air and Environment
- Agriculture
- Business Services
- Energy Infrastructure
- Energy Efficiency
- Energy Storage
- Finance and Investment
- Green Building
- Research and Advocacy
- Manufacturing and Industrial
- Recycling and Waste
- Renewable Energy Generation
- Green Transportation
- Water and Wastewater

Source: Next 10 (www.nextten.org/next10/pdf/Many_Shades_of_Green_1209.pdf)

[1] *Green Industries & Jobs in California, Research Preview, 2009* defines a Green Job as an occupation that 1) directly works with policies, information, materials, and/or technologies that contribute to minimizing environmental impact, and 2) requires specialized knowledge, skills, training, or experience in these areas.

Economic and Business Climate

Job losses continue to hurt Orange County's business climate, but helped somewhat to improve housing affordability. Still, the county remains an expensive place to live. World trade and tourism remained strong, serving as bright spots in a continually challenging economic landscape.

NATIONAL PEERS

Austin, Boston, Dallas, Minneapolis, Seattle

CALIFORNIA PEERS

San Francisco, San Jose

NEIGHBORS

Los Angeles, Riverside/San Bernardino, San Diego

Business Climate Continues Downward Trend

Description of Indicator

This indicator measures Orange County's business climate through *Forbes* magazine's "2009 Best Places for Business" regional rankings. The *Forbes* ranking compares metropolitan regions by cost of doing business, number of colleges, cost of living, crime rate, culture and leisure amenities, educational attainment, income growth, job growth, and net migration.

Why is it Important?

A region's business climate reflects its attractiveness as a location, the availability of business support and resources, opportunities for growth, and barriers to doing business. Since businesses provide jobs, sales tax revenue, economic growth, and entrepreneurship opportunities, a strong business climate is important for maintaining Orange County's economic health and quality of life.

How is Orange County Doing?

Forbes' 2009 rankings placed Orange County 107th out of the 200 metro areas ranked:

- This spot marks a decline of 15 places from 2008, and 80 places from the county's peak ranking of 27th in 2005.
- Within California, Riverside/San Bernardino and San Diego ranked higher at 94th and 104th, respectively.
- Among peers outside of California, Orange County is outranked by Austin, Seattle, Dallas, Minneapolis, and Boston.
- In the past, Orange County has ranked high in terms of educational attainment and relatively high in job growth, but consistently poor in cost of doing business.
- However, Orange County's job growth ranking dropped significantly in 2009, negatively impacting the county's overall score.

Best Places for Business Ranking, by Component
Orange County, 2009

	Rank
Educational Attainment[1]	29
Job Growth	123
Cost of Doing Business[2]	184
Overall	**107**

Source: Forbes magazine, March 25, 2009 (www.forbes.com/2009/03/25/best-cities-careers-bizplaces09-business-places_lander.html)

[1] Share of population over age 25 with a Bachelor's degree or higher
[2] Index based on cost of labor, energy, taxes and office space

Best Places for Business Ranking
Regional Comparison, 2005-2009

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Austin	3	28	66	47	8
Seattle	73	101	62	20	17
Dallas	19	25	111	93	32
Minneapolis	18	71	106	103	76
Boston	40	94	142	160	90
Riverside/San Bernardino	111	133	110	78	94
San Diego	25	61	92	106	104
Orange County	**27**	**58**	**70**	**92**	**107**
San Jose	50	166	183	174	115
San Francisco	81	167	175	166	127
Los Angeles	106	147	159	154	180

Lowest Rank				Highest Rank
200-161	160-121	120-81	80-41	40-1
Bottom 40				Top 40

Source: Forbes magazine, March 25, 2009 (www.forbes.com)

Tourism Tax Receipts Rise; Growth Rate Slows

Description of Indicator

This indicator measures visitor spending on accommodations, food, recreation, retail products, and travel arrangements, as well as tax revenue generated within Orange County by visitor spending. It also tracks travel industry employment trends.

Why is it Important?

Visitors traveling to Orange County for recreation and business generate revenue and jobs for the local economy. Tourism is one of the leading industries in Orange County, accounting for 10% of the county's employment (see Employment by Industry Clusters). Hotels, shops, restaurants, and entertainment venues rely on the tourism market for a significant percentage of their business. Moreover, Orange County benefits from tax revenue generated by visitor spending.

How is Orange County Doing?

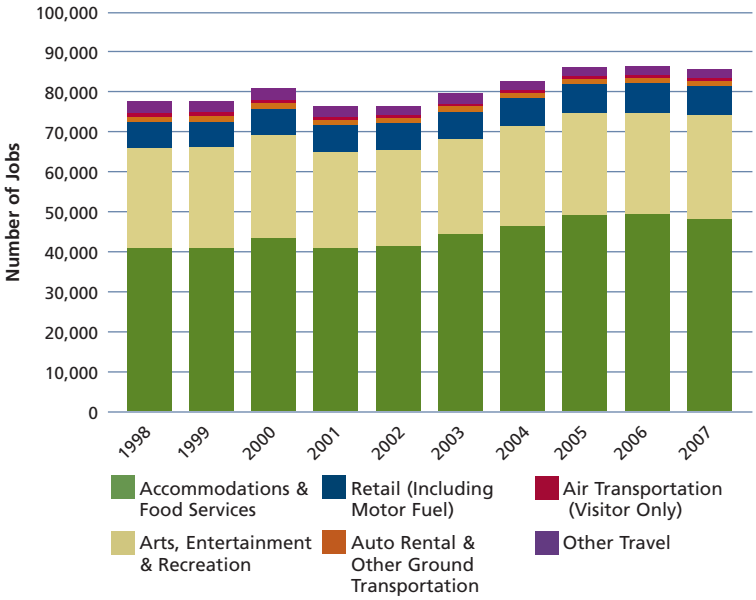
Overall spending and tax receipts rose:

- In 2007, Orange County tourism generated $542 million in tax receipts compared with $527 million in 2006.
- Orange County dropped from second to fifth among California peers in terms of growth in visitor spending, with an average annual growth rate of 5.6% between 2003 and 2007.

Tourism-related jobs remained relatively constant:

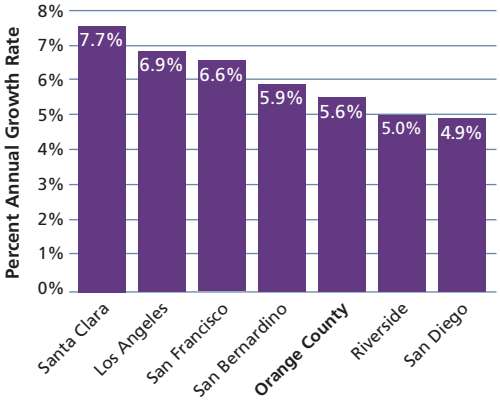
- Orange County remains the third largest market for tourism-related employment in the state, behind Los Angeles and San Diego Counties.
- In 2007, the average number of tourism-related jobs in Orange County dropped by 540 to 85,840.
- Although tourism-related employment remains strong, these workers are the lowest paid in Orange County with an average annual salary of approximately $20,000 (see Employment by Industry Clusters).

Tourism-Related Employment by Industry
Orange County, 1998-2007



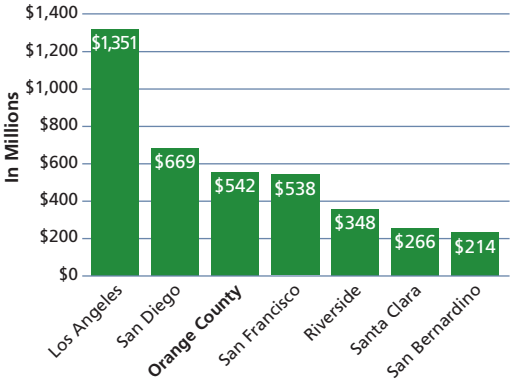
Source: California Division of Tourism, California Travel Impacts by County, Dean Runyan Associates (www.visitcalifornia.com)

Total Visitor Spending by County
Average Annual Growth Rate, 2003-2007



Source: California Division of Tourism, California Travel Impacts by County, Dean Runyan Associates (www.visitcalifornia.com)

Tourism-Related Total Tax Receipts
County Comparison, 2007



Source: California Division of Tourism, California Travel Impacts by County, Dean Runyan Associates (www.visitcalifornia.com)

Exports Continue to Increase

Description of Indicator

This indicator measures the change in dollar value of Orange County exports as well as exports from the greater Los Angeles metro area (which includes Orange County). These measures include exports by destination compared to peer regions and the leading exports by type of commodity.

Why is it Important?

The ability to access foreign markets is important for a strong and growing local economy. Trade agreements like the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) and subsequent bilateral agreements continue to open new markets for Orange County businesses. The county's location on the Pacific Rim, proximity to the Long Beach and San Pedro ports, and large population of Spanish and Asian language speakers make us well positioned for international trade.

How is Orange County Doing?

Exports from Orange County alone have trended upward since 2002:

- In the first half of 2008, exports from Orange County were estimated at $11.1 billion.
- In comparison, Orange County's total exports in 2007 were estimated at $20.2 billion.

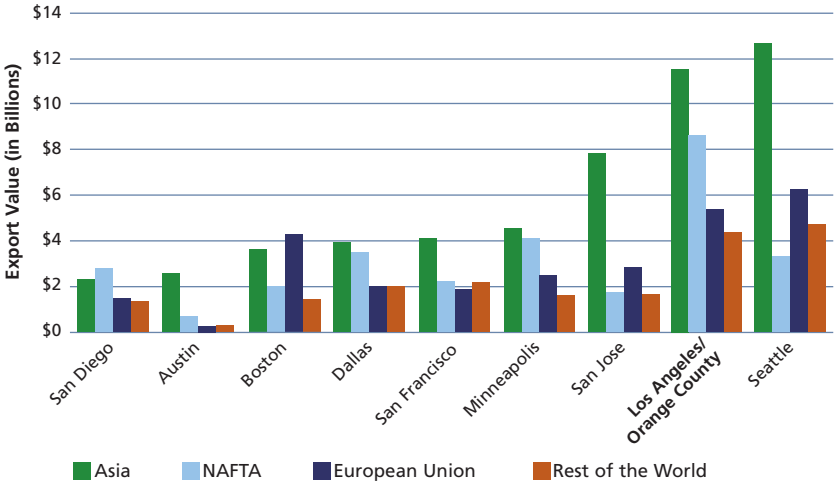
Orange County is part of the second largest export-generating region in the United States:

- A total of $29.9 billion was exported from the Los Angeles/Orange County metro area during the first half of 2008, and $54.3 billion in 2007.
- Asian countries combined are the top export market for Los Angeles/Orange County, with only the Seattle region selling more to Asia.
- Compared to peer regions, Los Angeles/Orange County is the top exporter to NAFTA countries (Mexico and Canada).
- The top exports from Los Angeles/Orange County are transportation equipment, computers and electronics, miscellaneous manufactured commodities, chemicals, and machinery (not including electrical).

Total Orange County Exports Worldwide, 1999-2008

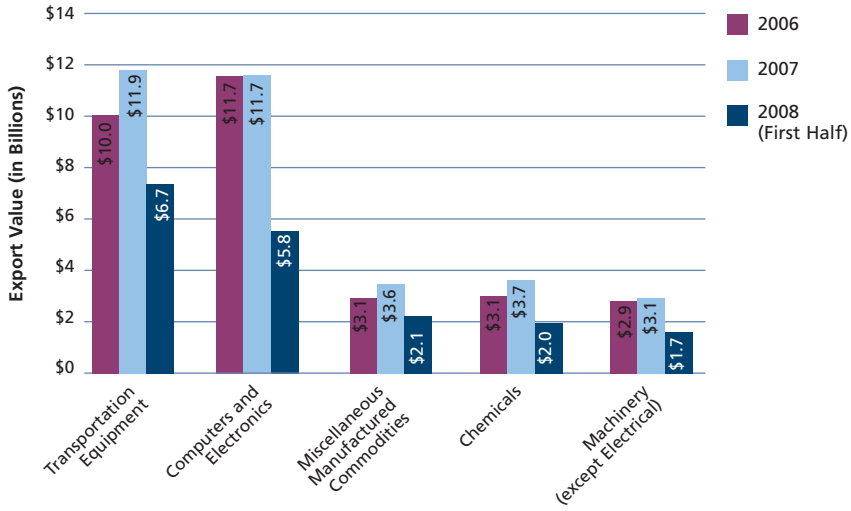
Sources: California State University, Fullerton, Institute for Economic and Environmental Studies; International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce (http://ita.doc.gov/td/industry/otea/metro/)

Exports by Destination
Regional Comparison, First Half of 2008



Source: International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce (http://ita.doc.gov/td/industry/otea/metro/)

Top Five Exports
Los Angeles/Orange County, 2006, 2007 and First Half of 2008



Source: International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce (http://ita.doc.gov/td/industry/otea/metro/)

Cost of Living Decreases; Still High Among Peers

Description of Indicator

This indicator uses a cost of living index to compare prices of housing, consumer goods, and services for Orange County and peer metropolitan regions. The weighted index compares local market prices in the following areas:

- Housing (28%)
- Utilities (10%)
- Health care costs (4%)
- Groceries (13%)
- Transportation (10%)
- Miscellaneous items (35%)

The average for all metro areas equals 100 and each area's individual index is read as a percentage of the average for all places.

Why is it Important?

A high cost of living relative to peer markets can make Orange County less attractive as a destination for businesses and workers. In addition, businesses already operating in Orange County may opt to relocate or expand elsewhere. Current residents – particularly young workers – may decide to move to more affordable areas.

How is Orange County Doing?

In the second quarter of 2009:

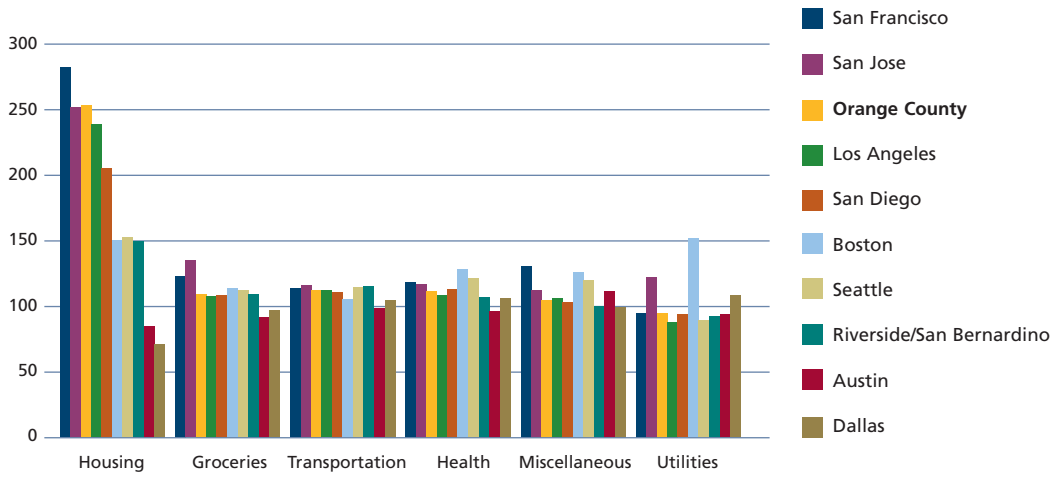
- Orange County's cost of living was the third highest among peer regions, which are among the highest of the 300 metro areas analyzed in the index.
- San Francisco and San Jose were the only markets more expensive.
- With 100.0 being average, Orange County measured 148.8 on the index, down from 155.8 in 2008.
- Overall cost of living decreased in Orange County, San Francisco, Los Angeles, San Diego, Boston, and Riverside/San Bernardino.
- Cost of living increased in San Jose, Seattle, Austin, and Dallas.
- Orange County's cost of living measures for groceries, utilities, transportation, and miscellaneous items tended to rank in the middle among peers, but high housing costs significantly affected the index, making Orange County's score among the highest.

Cost of Living Index
Regional Comparison, 2nd Quarter 2009

Location	Total Index Value
San Francisco	168.1
San Jose	157.2
Orange County	**148.8**
Los Angeles	144.7
San Diego	134.4
Boston	132.4
Seattle	123.8
Riverside/San Bernardino	116.6
Austin	95.9
Dallas	92.3

Source: Council for Community and Economic Research (www.c2er.org/)

Cost of Living Index, by Component
Regional Comparison, 2nd Quarter 2009



Source: Council for Community and Economic Research (www.c2er.org/)

Income Growth Higher than Most Peers in 2007

Description of Indicator

This indicator measures per capita income levels and income growth. Total personal income includes wages and salaries, proprietor income, property income, and transfer payments, such as pensions and unemployment insurance. Figures are not adjusted for inflation.

Why is it Important?

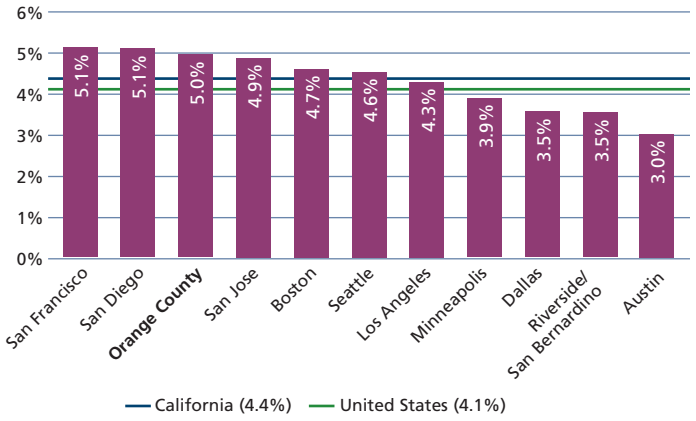
A high per capita income for residents is crucial in the context of Orange County's high housing costs. In addition, a higher relative per capita income signals greater discretionary income for the purchase of goods and services.

How is Orange County Doing?

Orange County income continues to grow:

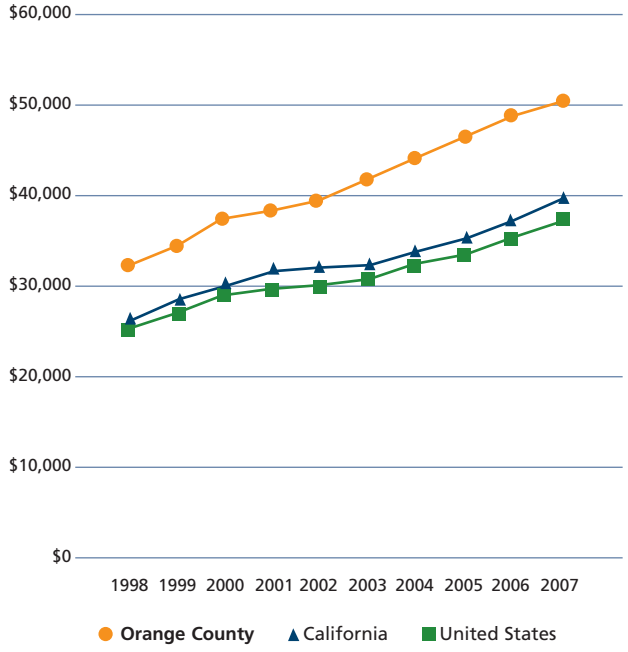
- In 2007, Orange County's per capita income of $50,463 was higher than the state and national averages.
- Compared to peer and neighboring markets, Orange County has the fifth highest per capita income, trailing San Francisco, San Jose, Boston, and Seattle.
- Orange County's income is rising slower than in past years, increasing 2.4% between 2006 and 2007, compared with 6% between 2005 and 2006, and 5.5% between 2004 and 2005.
- Between 1998 and 2007, Orange County posted a per capita income growth of 5.0%, which is faster than all peer regions compared except San Francisco and San Diego.
- Compared over this same ten year period, the average inflation rate was 2.7%, which should be taken into account when interpreting these income growth percentages.
- According to the National Bureau of Economic Research, a private group of leading economists charged with dating the start and end of economic downturns, the nation fell into recession in December 2007. As a result, 2008 per capita income figures may show weakening.[1]

Per Capita Income Average Annual Percent Change
Regional Comparison, 1998-2007



Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis (www.bea.gov)

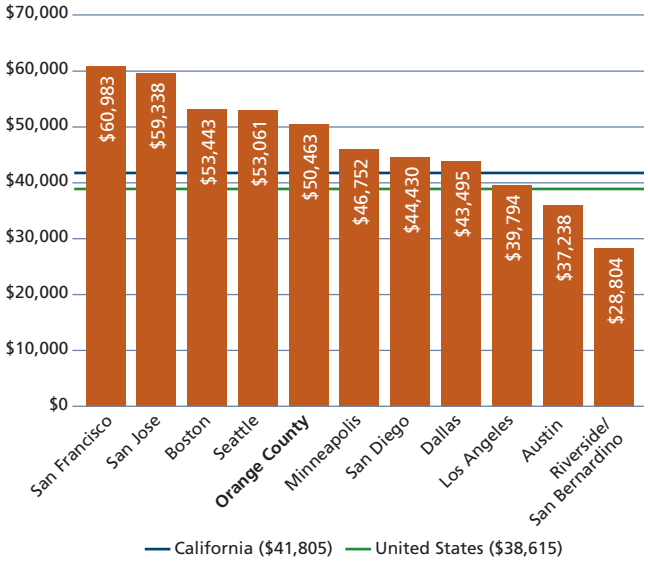
Per Capita Income
Orange County, California, and United States, 1998-2007



Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis (www.bea.gov)

Note: Each year the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis refines and updates their data. Thus, these figures have been updated from previous Community Indicators reports.

Per Capita Income
Regional Comparison, 2007



Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis (www.bea.gov)

[1] Washington Post, reported December 1, 2008, retrieved November 12, 2009 (http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2008/12/01/AR2008120101365.html)

Tourism is Largest and Lowest Paid Employment Cluster

Description of Indicator

This indicator shows employment and salaries in 10 major Orange County industry clusters. The clusters were chosen to reflect the diversity of Orange County employment, major economic drivers within the county, and important industry sectors for workforce development. Approximately 40% of all Orange County jobs can be found in the 10 clusters described in this indicator.

Why is it Important?

Employment change within specific clusters illustrates how Orange County's economy is evolving. Tracking salary levels in these clusters shows whether these jobs can provide a wage high enough for workers to afford to live in Orange County.

How is Orange County Doing?

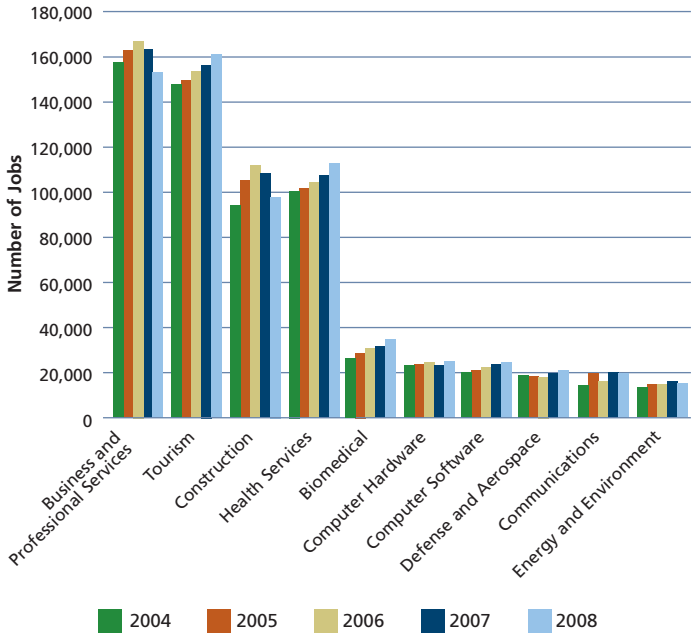
Between 2007 and 2008, employment grew in seven of Orange County's 10 major industry clusters:

- Two of the largest clusters – Tourism and Health Services – were part of this growth.
- Business and Professional Services and Construction – two of the other largest clusters – experienced employment declines, as did Energy and Environment.
- The largest employment gains occurred in Biomedical (6.5%), Health Services (5.4%), and Computer Software (4.3%).

Six of the 10 major industry clusters experienced salary increases between 2007 and 2008:

- The largest salary increases occurred in Business and Professional Services (7.4%) and Construction (5.5%).
- As presented in the Housing Affordability indicator, the annual income needed to purchase a median-priced home in Orange County is $72,600 – affordable only to the top three paying clusters.
- Despite salary increases, two of the four largest clusters do not offer an annual income high enough to afford median rent on a one-bedroom apartment, which is estimated at $53,440 in the Rental Affordability indicator.

Employment in Selected Clusters
Orange County, 2004-2008



Source: Orange County Business Council analysis of data from the California Employment Development Department

Average Annual Salaries in Orange County Clusters
Orange County, 2008

	2008	Change 2007-08
Computer Software	$85,772	-3.8%
Defense and Aerospace	$84,106	-11.7%
Computer Hardware	$72,823	3.4%
Biomedical	$71,296	-11.1%
Communications	$66,814	-4.1%
Energy and Environment	$61,242	3.3%
Construction	$56,520	5.5%
Business and Professional Services	$55,131	7.4%
Health Services	$49,016	4.0%
Tourism	$20,507	1.5%

Source: Orange County Business Council analysis of data from the California Employment Development Department

Job-to-Housing Balance Improves at the Expense of Jobs

Description of Indicator

This indicator shows the ratio of new housing permits divided by new jobs created in Orange County compared with peer metro areas across the state and the country.

Why is it Important?

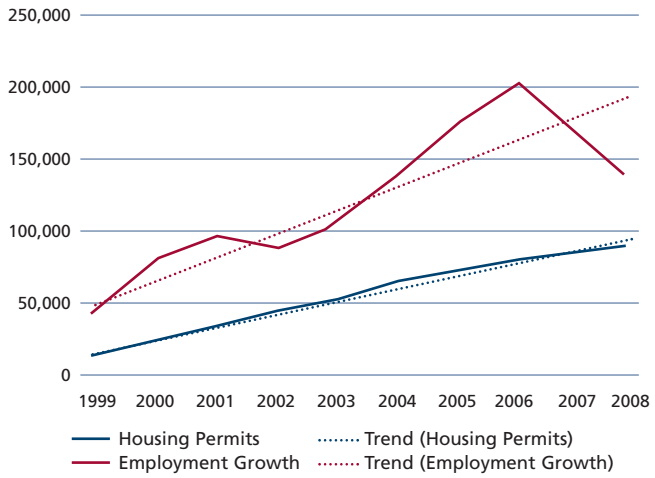
An adequate housing supply is essential for a community's labor force. When an economy is growing, new housing is needed for the additional workers employed. If the housing demand is unmet, it can drive up home prices and apartment rents beyond what is affordable to many workers and residents.

How is Orange County Doing?

Due to a significant decline in employment, the long-term housing shortage that has existed in Orange County since the late 1990s has been largely alleviated:

- In 2008, employment dropped by 30,300 jobs, while 3,235 new housing permits were granted.
- The resulting ratio of -9.37 jobs (job losses) for every new housing permit leaves Orange County with the greatest negative ratio among all peers compared.
- Prior to 2007, Orange County's significant job growth created a situation of too many jobs for houses permitted. Since then, job losses have reversed this trend resulting in a negative jobs-to-housing ratio in both 2007 and 2008.
- In other words, too many houses were permitted in 2007 and 2008 when compared with job losses, but this recent reversal is correcting imbalances of prior years.
- Since 1999, a total of 143,500 new jobs were created (including losses) compared with 89,000 housing units permitted.
- Thus, for approximately every 1.61 jobs created in the county since 1999, one housing unit has been permitted. The standard "healthy" ratio of jobs-to-permits is 1.5 jobs per housing unit.
- All California peers compared experienced job losses in 2008, as did the state and nation.
- Job growth continued in correspondence with housing permit growth in Austin, Boston, Dallas, and Seattle.

Cumulative Growth in Employment and Housing Permits (1999 Baseline)
Orange County, 1999-2008



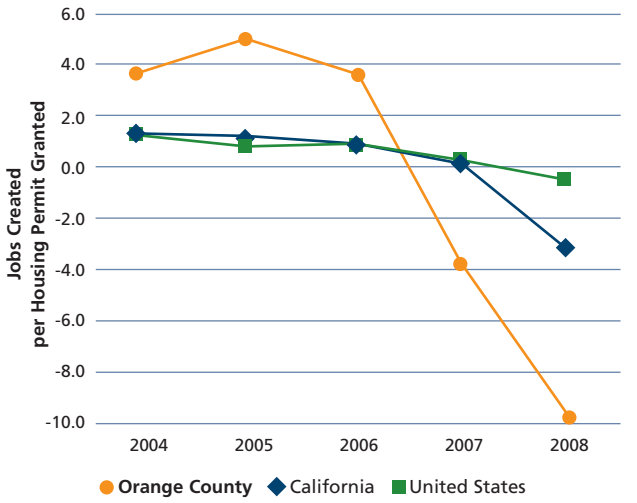
Sources: Hanley Wood Market Intelligence (www.hanleywood.com/hwmi); United States Bureau of Labor Statistics (www.bls.gov)

Housing Demand
Regional Comparison, 2008

	Housing Permits	Employment Change (Jobs) 2007 to 2008	Ratio of Employment Change to Permits
Austin	11,792	19,100	1.62
Boston	7,634	12,300	1.61
Dallas	27,270	33,000	1.21
Seattle	15,512	17,900	1.15
United States	905,359	-558,400	-0.62
San Francisco	12,769	-12,000	-0.94
San Diego	5,357	-9,400	-1.75
Minneapolis	5,781	-11,200	-1.94
California	53,600	-173,700	-3.24
Los Angeles	11,810	-51,100	-4.33
Riverside/San Bernardino	8,946	-47,900	-5.35
Orange County	**3,235**	**-30,300**	**-9.37**

Sources: Hanley Wood Market Intelligence (www.hanleywood.com/hwmi); United States Bureau of Labor Statistics (www.bls.gov)

New Jobs Created per Housing Permit Granted
Orange County, California, and United States, 2004-2008



Sources: Hanley Wood Market Intelligence (www.hanleywood.com/hwmi); United States Bureau of Labor Statistics (www.bls.gov)

Affordability Improves; Price Declines Slow

Description of Indicator

This indicator measures the value and change in value of the median-priced existing single-family detached home. It uses the California Association of Realtors Housing Affordability Index to measure the percentage of Orange County households that can afford the existing median-priced single-family detached home in Orange County. It also compares homeownership rates.

Why is it Important?

High relative housing prices adversely impact businesses' ability to attract and retain workers. A shortage of affordable housing – particularly for first-time buyers – discourages young workers from moving to or remaining in Orange County. In addition, a lack of affordable housing results in longer commutes, leading to increased traffic congestion and pollution, decreased productivity, and diminished quality of life. Homeownership increases stability for families and communities, and for many, can provide long term financial benefits that renting cannot.

How is Orange County Doing?

The single-family median home sale price is significantly less than in 2008, but still out of reach for many:

- In July 2009, the median sale price of an existing single-family detached home in Orange County was $500,210, down 6.9% since July 2008.
- This represents a slowdown over the previous year, which witnessed a 24% decline between July 2007 and July 2008.
- The July 2009 price is nearly $200,000 more than the state median price for a comparable home.

Housing affordability improved for the third year in a row:

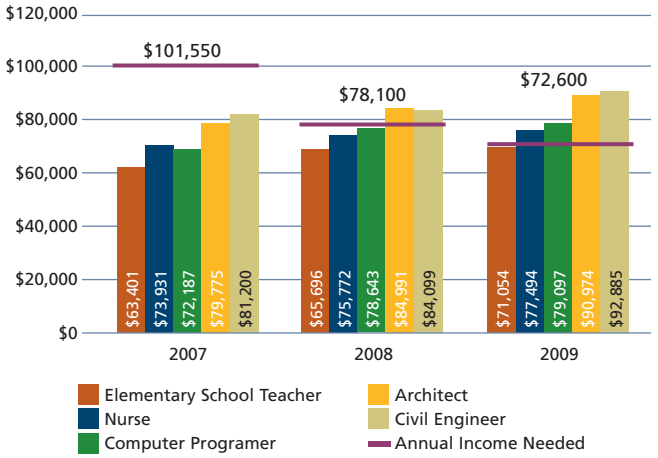
- The minimum household income needed to purchase a median-priced single-family home in Orange County is approximately $72,600.[1]
- As of the second quarter of 2009, 53% of households in Orange County could afford an existing single-family detached home that was priced at 85% of median (or $425,200).
- This is up from 41% of households able to afford a median-priced, single-family home in 2008 and only 23% in 2007.
- Orange County's affordability rate is lower than all peers compared.
- Neighboring Riverside and San Bernardino Counties remain significantly more affordable with rates of 79% and 82%, respectively.

Homeownership rates rose slightly:

- Homeownership rates in Orange County rose to 62.7% in 2007, up from 62.4% in 2006 and 61.0% in 2005.
- Orange County has similar levels of homeownership as many peer regions, but still lags behind the national rate by approximately 4.5%.

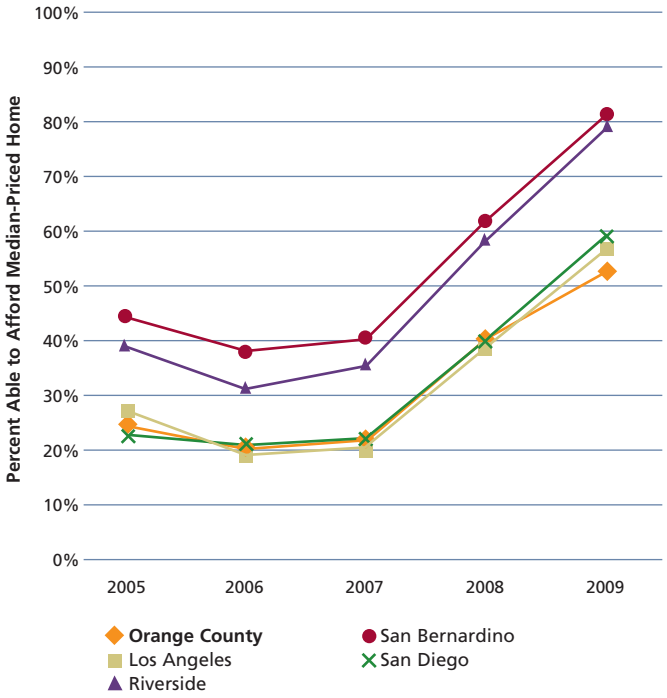
[1] The California Association of Realtors defines the parameters for the First Time Buyer Housing Affordability Index. In 2008, these parameters were 10% down and a 4.92% adjustable interest rate.

Income Needed to Afford Median-Priced Home Compared to Typical Salaries
Orange County, 2007-2009



Sources: Orange County Business Council analysis of California Association of Realtors data; California Employment Development Department (www.edd.ca.gov)

Housing Affordability Index
County Comparison, 2005-2009



Source: California Association of Realtors (www.car.org)

Rental Housing More Expensive than Peers

Description of Indicator

This indicator measures the Housing Wage – the hourly wage a resident needs to afford "Fair Market Rent" (the median rent in the Orange County market).

Why is it Important?

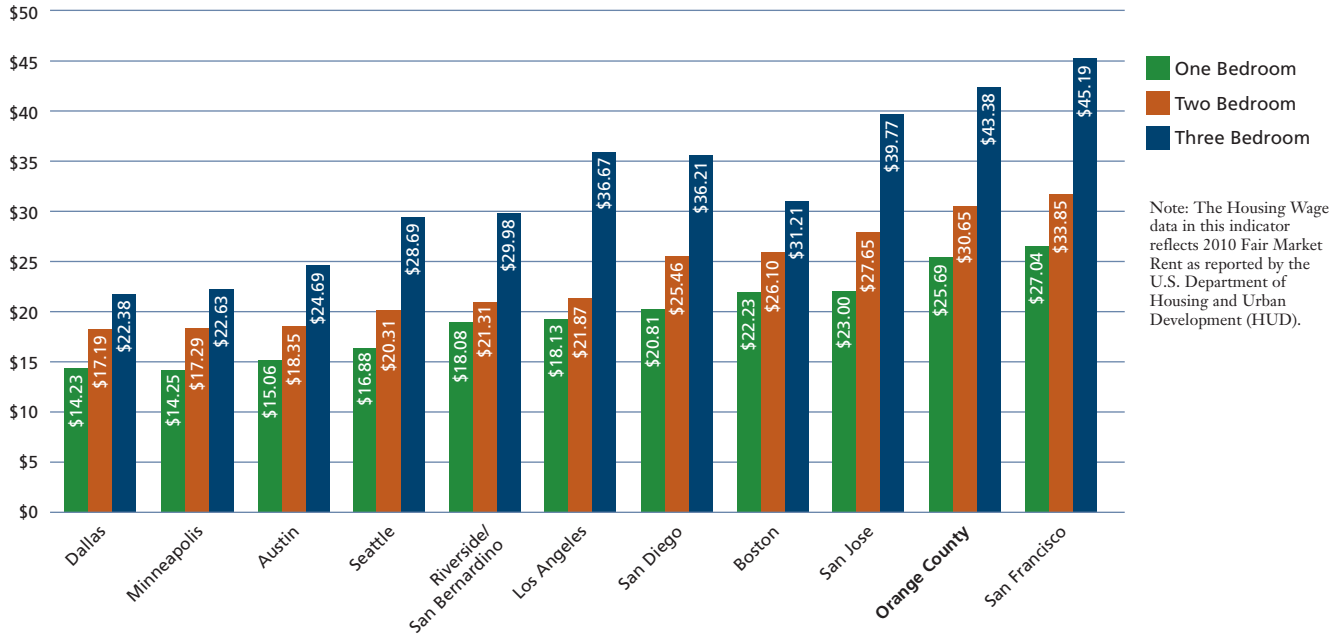
Lack of affordable rental housing can lead to crowding and household stress. Less affordable rental housing also restricts the ability of renters to save for a down payment on a home, limiting their ability to eventually realize the long-term financial advantages of home-ownership. Ultimately, a shortage of affordable housing for renters can instigate a cycle of poverty.

How is Orange County Doing?

After decreasing in 2009, Orange County's Housing Wage rose in 2010:

- The hourly wage needed to afford rent on a one-bedroom unit rose from $24.92 in 2009 to $25.69 in 2010. This Housing Wage is equivalent to an annual income of $53,440.
- The hourly wages needed to afford two- and three-bedroom units also increased.
- Orange County continues to have the second highest Housing Wage (less affordable housing) compared to peer metro areas.

Hourly Wage Needed to Afford Fair Market Rent
Regional Comparison, 2010



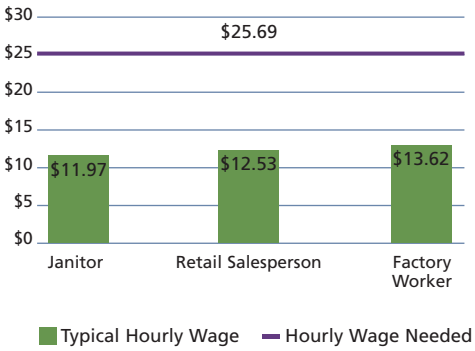
Note: The Housing Wage data in this indicator reflects 2010 Fair Market Rent as reported by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

Renting in Orange County

	2009	2010
Fair Market Rent (Monthly)		
One Bedroom	$1,296	$1,336
Two Bedroom	$1,546	$1,594
Three Bedroom	$2,188	$2,256
Amount a Household Earning Minimum Wage Can Afford to Pay in Rent (Monthly)	$416	$416
Number of Hours per Week a Minimum Wage Earner Must Work to Afford a One-Bedroom Apartment	125	131

Sources: Orange County Business Council analysis of U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Fair Market Rent (www.huduser.org/datasets/fmr.html) using the methodology of the National Low Income Housing Coalition (www.nlihc.org), and California Employment Development Department (www.calmis.ca.gov)

Hourly Wage Needed to Afford a One-Bedroom Unit Compared to Typical Hourly Wages
Orange County, 2010



Little Change in Commute Times and Modes of Travel

Description of Indicator

This indicator includes commute times and residents' primary mode of travel to work.

Why is it Important?

Long commutes impact personal lives and worker productivity due to the time lost in transit. Tracking commuter trends and transportation system demand helps gauge the ease with which residents, workers, and goods can move within the county.

How is Orange County Doing?

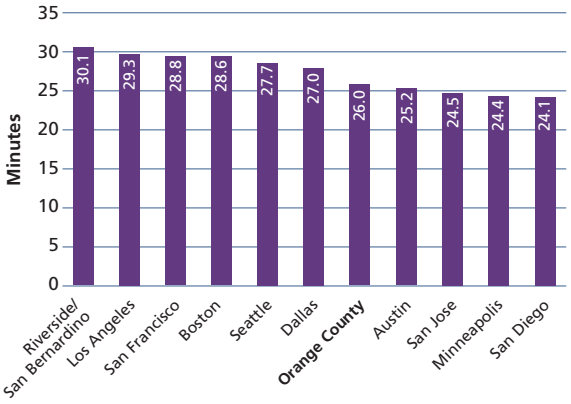
Orange County commute times remain the same:

- In 2008, the average commute time to work for Orange County residents was unchanged from 2007 at approximately 26 minutes.
- Of all peers compared, only Austin, San Jose, Minneapolis, and San Diego have lower commute times than Orange County.

Primary travel modes to work indicate little variation over the past decade:

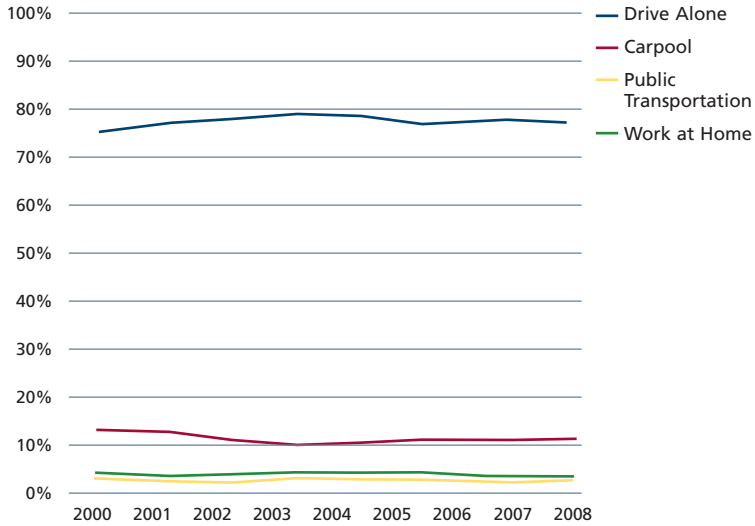
- Most Orange County commuters continue to drive alone (76.8% in 2008, down from 78.0% in 2007).
- Although the number of Orange County commuters who drive alone has remained largely unchanged over the past decade, the 2008 rate is the second lowest since 2000.
- Carpooling – the second most common mode of travel to work – rose slightly in 2008 (11.2%) compared to 2007 (10.7%), but is still below the nine-year high of 13.5% in 2000.
- In 2008, 4.7% of people worked at home, down from 4.9% in 2007.
- The number of people using public transportation rose slightly in 2008 at 3.3%, up from 2.7% in 2007.

Average Commute Time to Work in Minutes
Regional Comparison, 2008



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2008 American Community Survey (www.census.gov)

Primary Mode of Travel to Work
Orange County, 2000-2008



Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000, Supplementary Survey 2001, American Community Survey 2002-2008 (www.census.gov)

Number of Rail Riders Down

Description of Indicator

This indicator measures ridership and operating costs for Orange County's bus system, as well as ridership on the commuter rail system.

Why is it Important?

The ability of residents and workers to move efficiently within Orange County is important to our quality of life and a prosperous business climate. An effective public transit system is essential for individuals who cannot afford, are unable, or choose not to drive a car.

How is Orange County Doing?

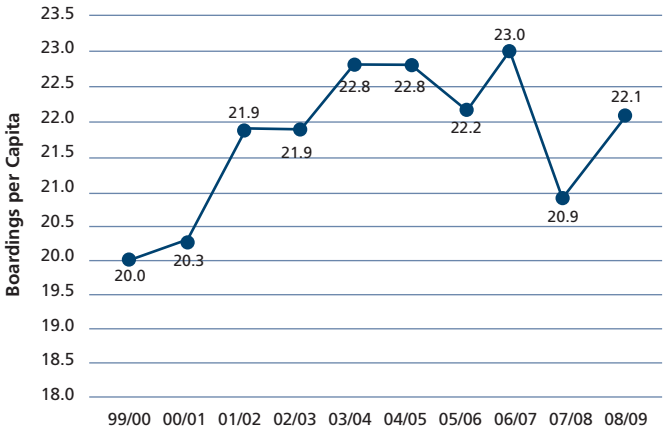
Per capita bus boardings for Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) bus service increased:

- Bus boardings were at 22 per capita in 2008/09, up from 21 per capita in 2007/08.
- In 2008/09, there were 68,768,740 total bus passenger boardings – up from 65,200,200 in 2007/08.
- Compared to peers, Orange County's bus ridership per capita is higher than San Jose, Dallas, San Bernardino, San Diego, and Riverside, but lower than all remaining peers compared.
- Orange County's bus system operating costs are among the lowest when compared to transportation agencies in peer regions, with only Los Angeles, Boston, and Minneapolis having lower costs.

Ridership declined on two of the three Orange County commuter rail lines:

- The Orange County Line (between Oceanside and downtown Los Angeles) shrank from approximately 2.21 million riders in 2007/08 to 1.84 million riders in 2008/09.
- The Inland Empire Line (between San Bernardino and San Juan Capistrano) dropped from 1,282,610 to 1,217,956 riders during the same period.
- The 91 Line (parallels State Route 91, linking Riverside with Fullerton and downtown Los Angeles) increased by approximately 16,000 riders, bringing its total to 586,525 in 2008/09.
- When taken together, ridership dropped from 4.1 million riders to 3.6 million riders on all lines combined in 2008/09, a decline of 10.5% in one year. This decline reverses the trend of steady increases seen in ridership since 1999/00.

OCTA Bus Passenger Boardings, 2000-2009



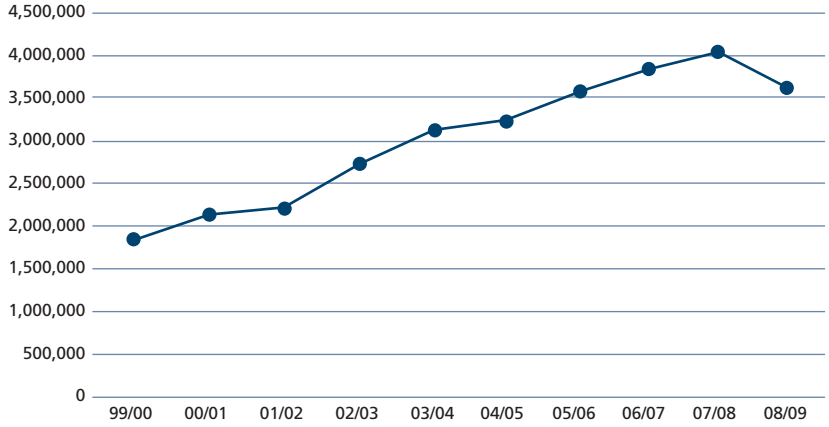
Source: Orange County Transportation Authority

Bus System Boardings per Capita and Operating Costs per Boarding
Regional Comparison, 2008

Regional Transportation System	Boardings per Capita	Cost per Boarding
Twin Cities Area Transportation Authority (Minneapolis)	60	$3.20
King County Department of Transportation, Metro Transit Division (Seattle)	53	$3.89
Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority	38	$2.36
Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority (Boston)	35	$3.03
Capital Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Austin)	27	$3.51
Orange County Transportation Authority	**22**	**$3.29**
Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority (San Jose)	19	$6.01
Dallas Area Rapid Transit	19	$5.31
Omnitrans (San Bernardino)	7	$3.92
San Diego Metropolitan Transit System	7	$3.83
Riverside Transit Agency	3	$5.39

Source: Federal Transit Administration

Number of Commuter Rail Riders
Orange County Line, Inland Empire/Orange County Line, and 91 Line, 2000-2009



Source: Orange County Transportation Authority

Technology and Innovation

Technology remains a stronghold of the Orange County economy. Our high-tech economy is more diverse than most peer regions, Internet access increased for adults and students, and venture capital investment and patent grants are trending upward. Time will tell if these trends continue.

NATIONAL PEERS

Austin, Boston, Dallas, Minneapolis, Seattle

CALIFORNIA PEERS

San Francisco, San Jose

NEIGHBORS

Los Angeles, Riverside/San Bernardino, San Diego

County has Second Highest Number of Clusters Among Peers

Description of Indicator

This indicator measures how diversified our high-tech economy is relative to other metro areas in the country. It tallies all of the technology sectors for which employment is more concentrated at the local level compared to the national average. A diversified technology sector will include concentrations in many high-tech employment clusters, so a larger number shows a more diversified technology employment base.

Why is it Important?

High-tech industries such as computer software programming, pharmaceuticals, or communications equipment development use a high degree of advanced technology, science, and research in the creation or implementation of their primary goods and services. They provide strong economic growth potential and higher than average wages. A diverse high-tech economy attracts a broad range of skilled workers and professional services, and may help foster dynamic new ventures. A diverse high-tech sector will also be more resilient during unanticipated downturns than economies that are more reliant upon a particular industry.

How is Orange County Doing?

Orange County is among the most diverse high-tech economies in the country:

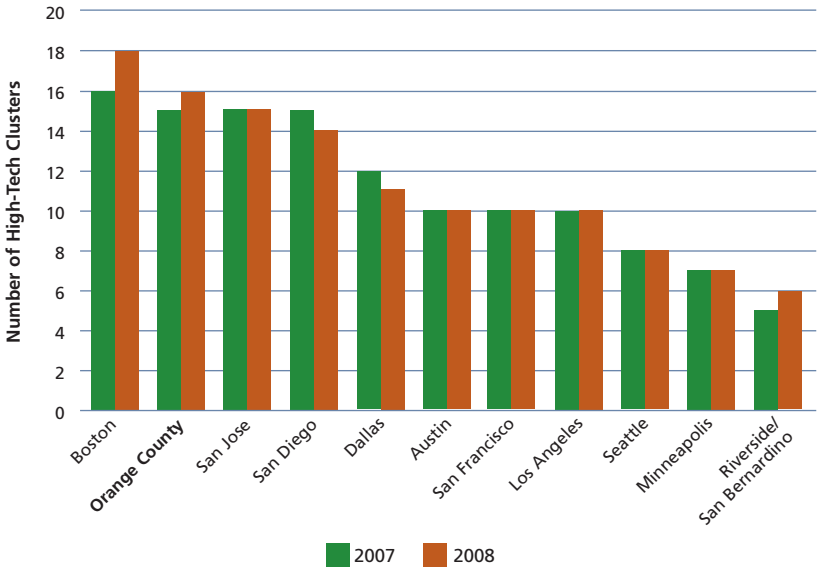
- The number of high-tech industries with an employment concentration above the national average increased from 15 in 2007 to 16 in 2008.
- With the exception of Boston, Orange County was higher than all peers compared in its number of high-tech clusters above the national average.
- Since 2003, Orange County's cluster concentration has ranged from 15 to 18.

High-Tech Clusters Exceeding National Average Concentration
Orange County, 2008

	Location Quotient (1.0 is the National Average)
Satellite Telecommunications	6.96
Audio and Video Equipment Manufacturing	3.01
Medical Equipment and Supplies Manufacturing	2.93
Telecommunications Resellers	2.72
Semiconductor and Other Electronic Component Manufacturing	2.47
Navigational, Measuring, Electromedical, and Control Instruments Manufacturing	2.21
Internet Service Providers and Web-Search Portals	2.12
Computer and Peripheral Equipment Manufacturing	2.09
Medical and Diagnostic Laboratories	2.05
Commercial and Service Industry Machinery Manufacturing	1.52
Software Publishers	1.50
Wireless Telecommunications Carriers (excluding Satellite)	1.46
Architectural, Engineering, and Related Services	1.30
Aerospace Product and Parts Manufacturing	1.11
Computer Systems Design and Related Services	1.08
Data Processing, Hosting, and Related Services	1.02

Source: Milken Institute (www.milkeninstitute.org)

High-Tech Cluster Diversification
Regional Comparison, 2007 and 2008



Source: Milken Institute (www.milkeninstitute.org)

Access to Internet Increases

Description of Indicator

This indicator measures the percentage of adults who have access to the Internet either at home or work.

Why is it Important?

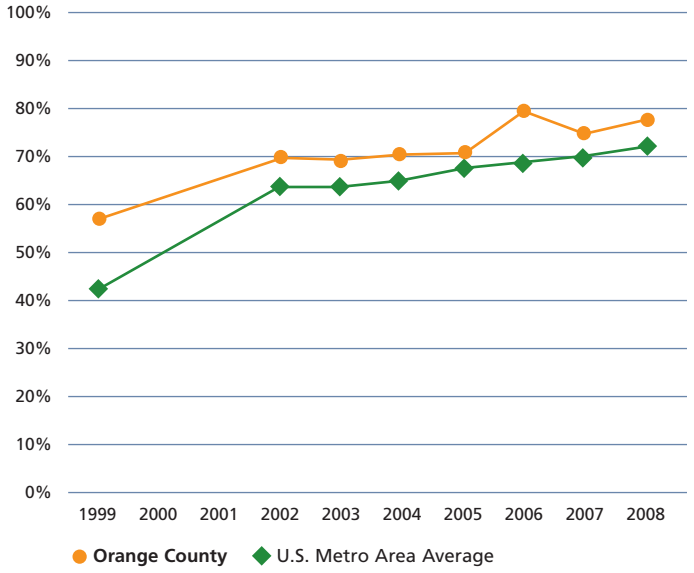
The Internet has become a standard and commonplace platform for work, education, entertainment, commerce, and government-related communication. Without access, residents are unable to tap into this vast wealth of information, resources, products, and services. Increased access not only benefits residents, it also significantly expands the marketplace for the sale of goods and services by local businesses.

How is Orange County Doing?

Orange County's Internet access rate is higher than the U.S. metro area average:

- Orange County's Internet access rate for adults was 77% in 2008, up from 75% in 2007.
- This rate is the 10th highest of 97 large metro areas compared.
- Orange County's rate of increase since 2002 roughly mirrors the slow rate of increase in the U.S. metro area average.

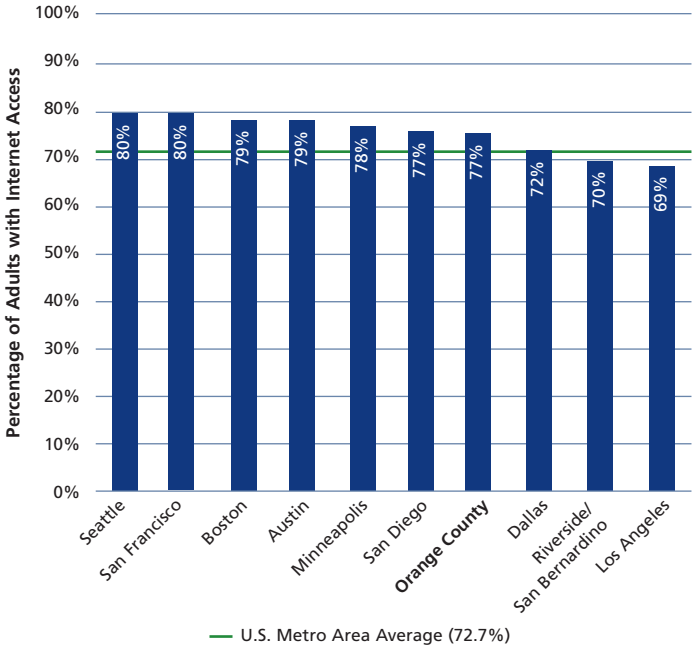
Internet Access Among Adults
Orange County and United States, 1999-2008



Note: Data for 2000 and 2001 are not available.

Source: Scarborough Research

Internet Access Among Adults
Regional Comparison, 2008



Source: Scarborough Research

Investments and Patents Increase in 2008

Description of Indicator

This indicator measures Orange County businesses' access to venture capital (financing for early-stage companies) by tracking investment among metro areas. It also measures the number of patent grants awarded to inventors.

Why is it Important?

Innovation and the development of new technology are critical for a regional economy's long-term viability. Venture capital facilitates new business growth and exploits new technologies. The number of patent grants awarded for county businesses and residents is a good barometer of both the ingenuity of the local workforce and businesses' commitment to research and development.

How is Orange County Doing?

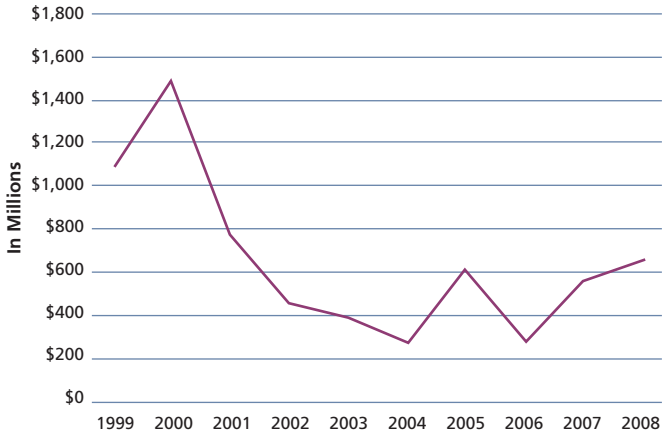
Venture capital investments increased in 2008 to exceed the 10-year average of $659.0 million:

- Venture capital funding in 2008 was $693.0 million, compared to $563.4 million in 2007.[1]
- However, investments for the first half of 2009 totaled $245.2 million, which is below the pace of 2008.
- Top sectors receiving funding in the first half of 2009 include medical devices ($86.1 million), industrial/energy ($47.0 million), and semi-conductors ($25.7 million).
- Orange County's share of national venture capital is approximately 2.0%.

Patent grants are on the rise:

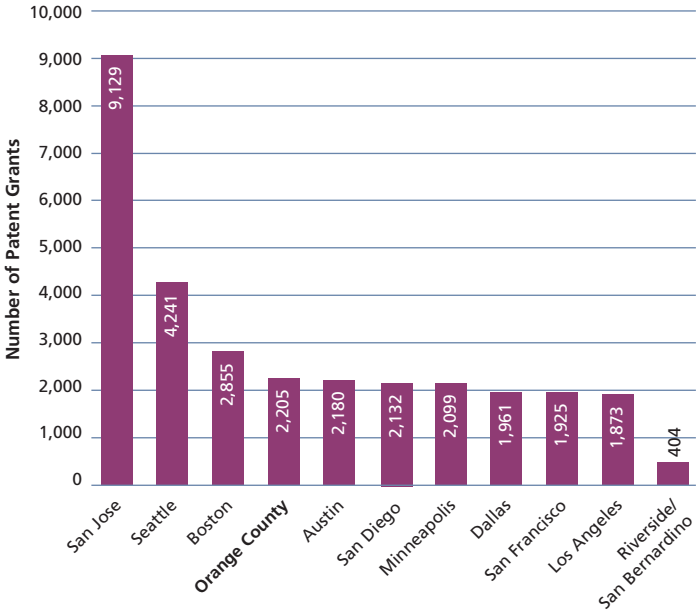
- In 2008, there were 2,205 patents granted to county inventors – up from 2,052 in 2007, but below the 2006 level of 2,408.
- The number of patents awarded in 2008 increased for all peers compared except San Diego, Dallas, and Los Angeles.
- Overall, patents granted to Orange County inventors grew by 12.7% between 2004 and 2008, which is midrange among peers compared.

Venture Capital Investment
Orange County, 1999-2008

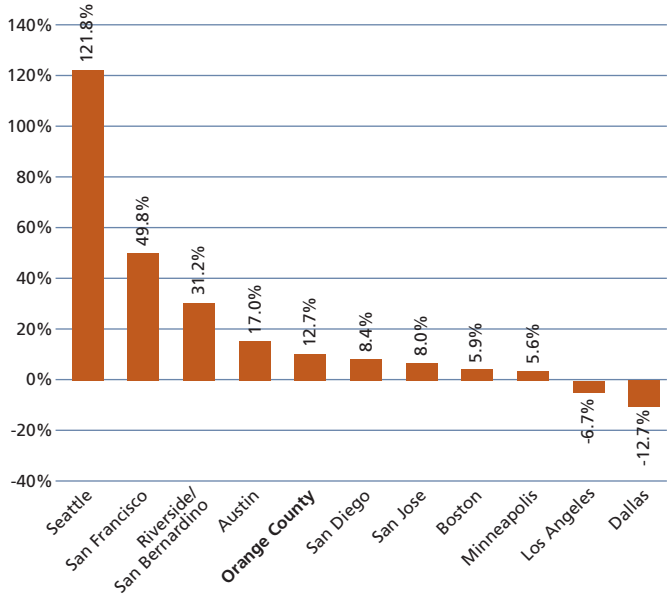


Source: PricewaterhouseCoopers/Thomson Venture Reuters/NVCA Moneytree Venture Capital Profiles (http://vx.thomsonib.com/VxComponent/static/stats/2009q3/metro_2112.html)

Number of Patent Grants Awarded
Regional Comparison, 2008



Percent Change in Patent Grants Awarded
Regional Comparison, 2004-2008



Source: United States Patent Office (www.uspto.gov)

[1] These figures have been updated from previous Community Indicators reports.

Math, Science Enrollment Strong; Computer Access Stalls

Description of Indicator

This indicator measures the technological know-how of the future workforce by tracking the number of K-12 students per computer, the number of classrooms with Internet access, and the percent of high school students enrolled in an upper level math (Intermediate Algebra/Algebra II or other Advanced Math) and/or science (first year Chemistry or Physics) course in Orange County public school districts.

Why is it Important?

Computer, math, and science competency are critical in our knowledge- and computer-driven economy. Computer and Internet access are important instructional devices and provide students with indispensable research tools. In addition, upper level math and science courses are required for UC/CSU entry, imparting the necessary background for many college level courses and technology-related jobs (see Technology-Related Degrees and Employment by Industry Clusters).

How is Orange County Doing?

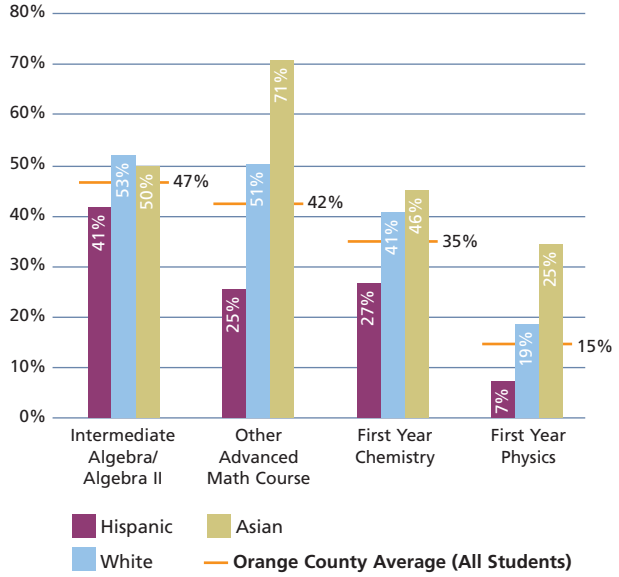
A significant percentage of Orange County students enroll in upper level math courses, while fewer participate in upper level science courses:[1]

- In 2008/09, approximately 47% of high school students enrolled in Intermediate Algebra/Algebra II, and 42% in other Advanced Math courses.
- 35% of high school students enrolled in first year Chemistry, while 15% took first year Physics.
- The percentage of Hispanic high school students taking upper level math and science courses is less than the Orange County average.

The number of students per computer remained constant, while Internet access improved:

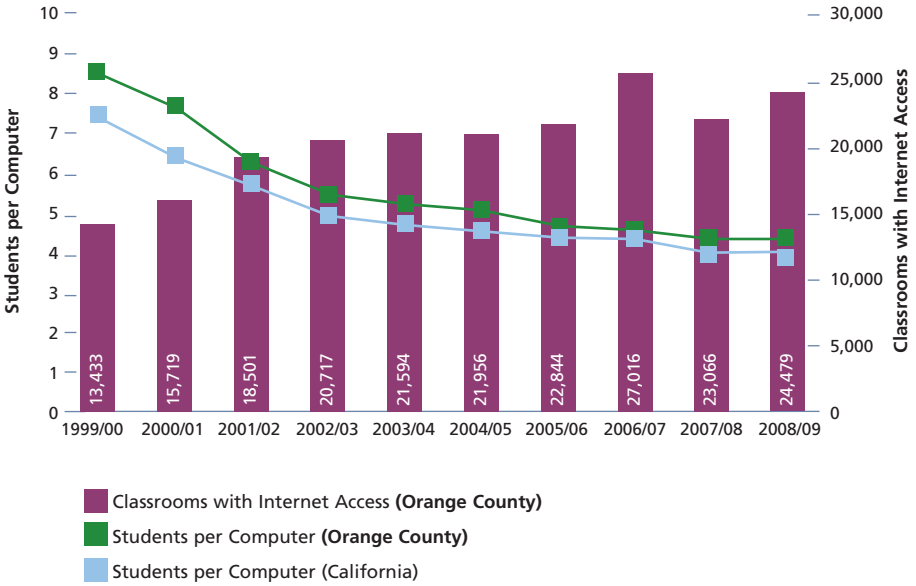
- In 2008/09, there were 4.4 students per computer in Orange County schools, which was the same as the previous year but higher than the State of California at 4.1.[2]
- However, the number of students per computer improved 49% between 1999/00 and 2008/09.
- In 2008/09, the number of Orange County classrooms with Internet access increased 6% above 2007/08 levels, but is still 9% below the peak in 2006/07.

Upper Level Math and Science Course Enrollment as Percent of Grade 9-12 Enrollment, by Race/Ethnicity
Orange County, 2008/09



Source: California Department of Education (http://data1.cde.ca.gov/dataquest)

Students per Computer and Number of Classrooms with Internet Access
Orange County and California, 2000-2009



Source: California Department of Education (http://data1.cde.ca.gov/dataquest)

[1] The California Department of Education revised its method for gathering this data and the categories of upper level math and science courses. Thus, this indicator includes data for 2008/09 only and it is not directly comparable with previous Community Indicators reports.

[2] A decrease in the number of students per computer is an improvement, indicating students have increased access to a computer. The number of classrooms with Internet access includes all classrooms and other instructional settings at the school (such as a computer lab, library or career center) with an Internet connection. If a classroom has more than one Internet connection, that classroom is still only counted once.

Undergrad Degrees Decline; Graduate Degrees Hold Steady

Description of Indicator

This indicator measures the number of tech-related degrees conferred by local universities.[1]

Why is it Important?

Effective workforce development and training supports Orange County's high-tech sector, nurtures our innovation economy, and contributes to our overall economic wellbeing. High-tech jobs provide good wages for employees and an increasing number of local graduates with technical skills helps employers avoid having to recruit workers from outside the county (see Employment by Industry Clusters).

How is Orange County Doing?

In 2008, roughly 17% of total undergraduate degrees granted were tech-related:

- After rising in 2007, the number of tech-related undergraduate degrees decreased by 10% in 2008 to 2,035.
- Disciplines with the greatest growth since 2004 include Biological Sciences (29% gain) and Engineering (20% gain).
- Undergraduate degrees in Information and Computer Sciences dropped 29% in 2008, compared to a 7% drop between 2006 and 2007.

Approximately 28% of total graduate degrees conferred in 2008 were tech-related:

- In 2008, tech-related graduate degrees remained relatively constant, increasing approximately 3%.
- Orange County universities awarded 810 tech-related graduate degrees in 2008.
- At the graduate level, Computer Science-related degrees continue to grow, posting 33% growth between 2004 and 2008.

Tech-Related Bachelor's Degrees Conferred at Orange County Universities

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Biological Sciences	610	710	798	833	789
Biology	92	125	108	139	115
Engineering	437	504	518	518	525
Information and Computer Sciences	388	478	288	269	190
Computer Sciences	157	114	102	79	75
Physical Sciences	222	273	307	380	338
Other Sciences	22	4	4	17	3
Total	**1,928**	**2,208**	**2,125**	**2,261**	**2,035**

Note: "Other Sciences" includes environmental science, kinesiology, movement and exercise science.

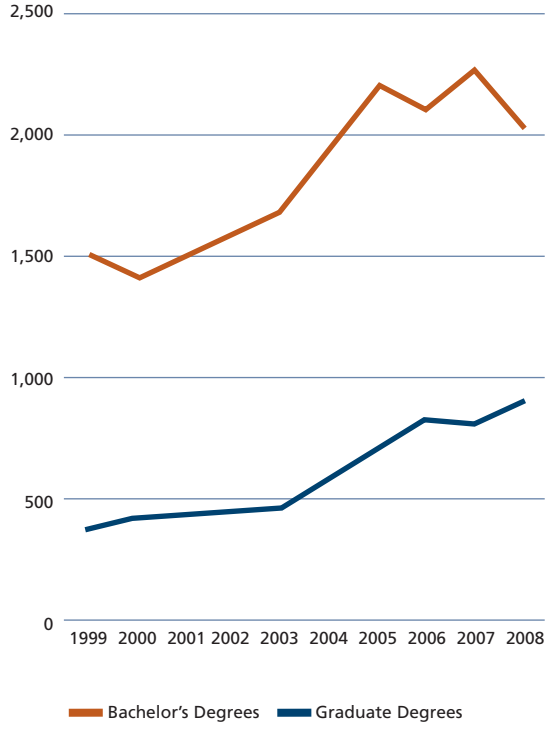
Tech-Related Graduate Degrees Conferred at Orange County Universities

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Biological Sciences	19	60	54	63	88
Biology	19	10	8	17	15
Engineering	256	240	300	273	305
Information and Computer Sciences	71	73	89	110	60
Computer Sciences	60	85	129	120	115
Physical Sciences	125	150	155	139	178
Other Sciences	22	36	36	43	49
Total	**572**	**654**	**771**	**765**	**810**

Note: "Other Sciences" includes physical therapy, food science and nutrition.

Sources: California State University, Fullerton; Chapman University; University of California, Irvine

Number of Tech-Related Degrees Granted
Orange County, 1999-2008



Sources: California State University, Fullerton; Chapman University; University of California, Irvine

[1] Orange County universities that offer technology-related graduate and undergraduate degrees include California State University, Fullerton, Chapman University, and University of California, Irvine.

Education

On average, Orange County's academic statistics are robust. A deeper look reveals disparities. Orange County has more highly-educated residents as well as more residents without a high school diploma than the national averages. There are also significant socioeconomic differences in terms of high school dropouts, college readiness, and academic testing.

NATIONAL PEERS

Boston, Dallas, Minneapolis, Phoenix

CALIFORNIA PEERS

Sacramento, San Jose, San Francisco

NEIGHBORS

Los Angeles, Riverside/San Bernardino, San Diego

Job Placement Steady or Improving for Career Tech Students

Description of Indicator

This indicator aggregates and reports career technical education data from the Orange County Regional Occupational Programs (ROP) and Orange County community colleges.

Why is it Important?

Career technical education allows residents to acquire skills for specialized jobs instead of (or in preparation for) obtaining a two- or four-year degree. It provides opportunities for those reentering the workforce, changing careers, or needing on-the-job skill upgrades. Ultimately, this indicator enables the community to assess the ability of career education providers to supply the local economy with a diverse and appropriately-trained labor force.

How is Orange County Doing?

ROP served fewer high school students in 2007/08:

- During this school year, approximately 20% of all Orange County high school students participated in ROP, just under the five-year average of 22%.
- Out of all Orange County adults, only 1% participate in ROP. However, adults comprise 34% of total ROP enrollment countywide.
- Approximately 9% of all adult residents are enrolled in one of Orange County's nine community colleges in any given semester.

Performance is strong among career technical education students:

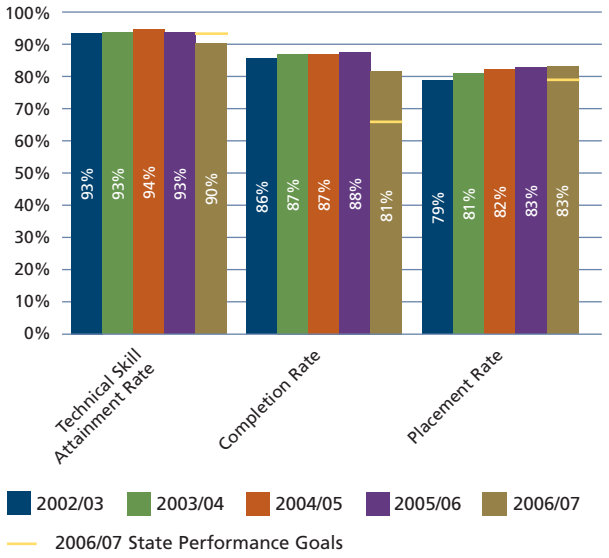
- 94% of 12th graders enrolled in ROP graduated from high school, while 81% of community college students received a credential, certificate, or degree.
- Within six months of graduating, 82% of ROP students were placed; within a year, 83% of community college students were placed.
- On average, Orange County community college students exceeded the state performance goals for completion (receiving a credential, certificate or degree) and placement rates (finding employment, an apprenticeship, or joining the military), but not for skill attainment (getting a 'C' grade or better).
- Placement rates tend to be above average in the most popular community college concentrations such as Engineering and Industrial Technologies and Health.

Placement Rate for Five Most Popular Community College Career Technical Concentrations
Orange County, 2006/07

	Number of Students	Placement Rate
Business and Management	1,361	82%
Engineering and Industrial Technologies	1,131	90%
Health	1,014	90%
Public and Protective Services	920	88%
Commercial Services	444	71%

Source: California Community Colleges, Chancellor's Office, Vocational Education (https://misweb.cccco.edu/perkins/main.aspx)

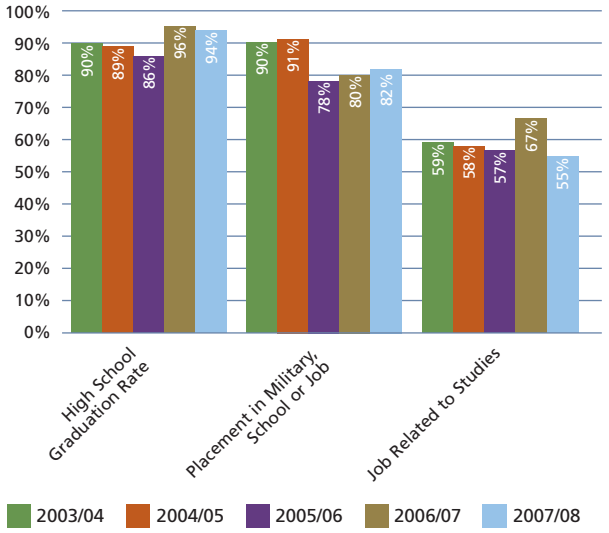
Community College Career Technical Education Student Performance
Orange County, 2003-2007



Note: Community college career technical education data has been revised and updated retroactively to conform to the Perkins IV Career and Technical Education Act of 2006. The core performance indicators are defined as follows: "Technical Skill Attainment" is earning a "C" grade or better, "Completion" is receiving a credential, certificate or degree, and "Placement" is finding employment, an apprenticeship, or joining the military.

Source: California Community Colleges, Chancellor's Office, Vocational Education (https://misweb.cccco.edu/perkins/main.aspx)

Regional Occupational Programs Student Performance
Orange County, 2004-2008



Note: For the purposes of this indicator, placement is calculated as: 1-(# of students not placed/# of survey respondents). "Placement" and "Job Related to Studies" include both high school and adult students.

Sources: Capistrano-Laguna, Coastline, Central County, and North County Regional Occupational Programs

High School Dropout Rate Increases

Description of Indicator

This indicator measures the educational attainment of Orange County residents over age 25 compared to the state, nation, and peer regions. It also measures the percentage of public high school students who drop out annually, in total and by race/ethnicity.

Why is it Important?

A high school diploma or college degree opens many career opportunities that are closed to those without these achievements. Additionally, the education level of residents is evidence of the quality and diversity of our labor pool – an important factor for businesses looking to locate or expand in the region.

How is Orange County Doing?

Orange County's high school dropout rate rose:

- According to 2007/08 figures, 10.9% of Orange County students drop out over the course of four years of high school.
- This is higher than the 2006/07 rate of 10.0%, but still below California's four-year dropout rate of 18.9%.
- Hispanic students comprise 40% of the high school student body, yet a disproportionate 62% of the dropout population.

Among adults over age 25, the proportion of residents who have graduated from high school is in the bottom third among peers:

- In 2008, 82.1% of residents over age 25 had a high school diploma or GED – exceeding the state average but below the national average.
- Only Dallas, Riverside/San Bernardino, and Los Angeles had fewer high school graduates.

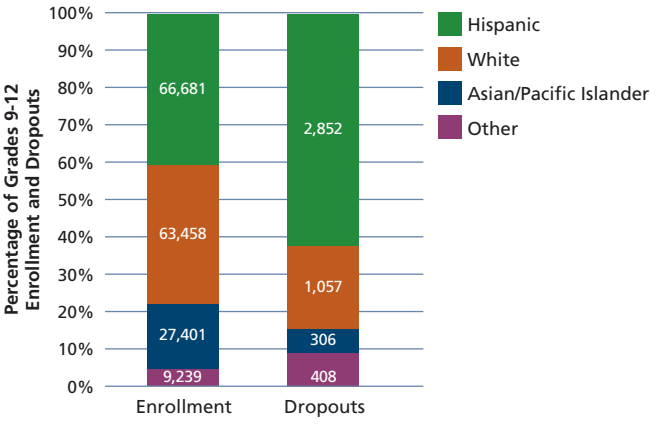
The proportion of residents over age 25 with Bachelor's degrees remained steady:

- At 35.4% in 2008, the proportion of residents over age 25 with at least a Bachelor's degree remained the same as in 2007.
- However, this proportion rose more than two percentage points since 2004, compared to less than one percentage point growth at the state and national levels.
- Orange County is above state and national averages for Bachelor's degrees, but in the mid-range among peers.

Educational attainment statistics reflect Orange County's broad economic and educational disparities:

- Orange County has more highly-educated residents as well as more residents without a high school diploma than the national average.
- For example, in Laguna Beach and Newport Beach, nearly all residents over age 25 have graduated from high school, compared to only half in Santa Ana.

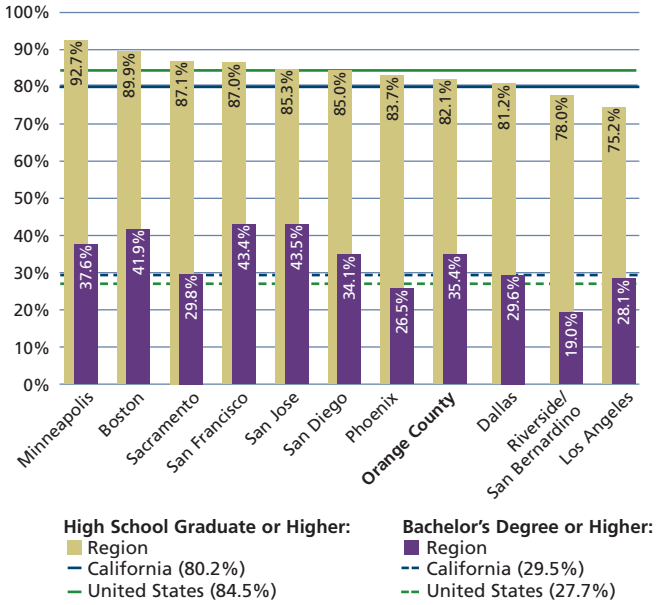
Comparison of Racial/Ethnic Composition of Grades 9-12 Enrollment and Dropout Population
Orange County, 2007/08



Note: "Asian" includes students identified as Asian, Pacific Islander, and Filipino. "Other" includes all races and/or ethnicities not otherwise shown in this chart, as well as multiple or no response.

Source: California Department of Education, DataQuest (http://data1.cde.ca.gov/dataquest/)

Percent Over Age 25 Earning a High School Diploma/GED or Higher and Bachelor's Degree or Higher
Regional Comparison, 2008



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2008 (http://factfinder.census.gov/)

More OC Students Eligible for College than Statewide

Description of Indicator

This indicator measures the number of public high school graduates who have fulfilled minimum course requirements to be eligible for admission to University of California (UC) or California State University (CSU) campuses. It also includes the percentage of high school graduates taking the SAT and the percentage of students scoring 1500 or better on the SAT.

Why is it Important?

A college education is important for many jobs in Orange County. To gain entry to most four-year universities, high school students must complete the necessary coursework and take standardized tests.

How is Orange County Doing?

UC/CSU eligibility is above the 15-year average:

- During the 2007/08 school year, 41% of Orange County students took the necessary coursework to be eligible for a UC or CSU campus.
- This is higher than the statewide average of 34%.
- Over the past 15 years, UC/CSU eligibility has fluctuated, with an average eligibility rate of 38%.

Overall, SAT test taking and scores are strong:

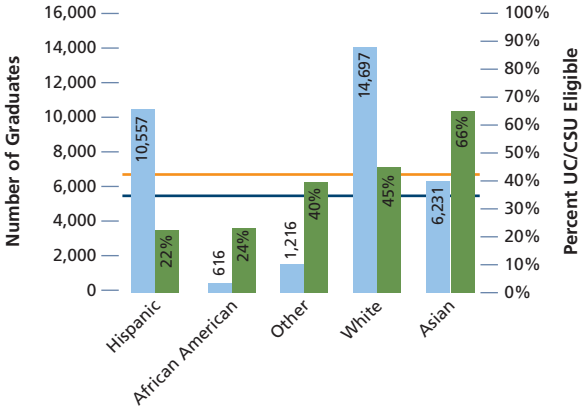
- At 1598, Orange County trails only the San Jose metro area for the highest average SAT score among California peers.
- 61% of Orange County test takers scored above 1500 points, higher than the California average of 49%.[1]

There are wide disparities in SAT taking and scores, as well as UC/CSU eligibility:

- In Irvine Unified School District, 83% of students scored above 1500 on the SAT, compared to 25% in Santa Ana Unified School District.
- Asian students are the most likely to be UC/CSU eligible (66%), but comprise only 19% of all high school graduates.
- Hispanic students are the least likely to be UC/CSU eligible (22%), but comprise 31% of all high school graduates.

[1] In prior years of reporting SAT data, the California Department of Education calculated the percent of students scoring 1500 or better using "total grade 12 enrollment" as the denominator, rather than "number taking the test." However, the 2007/08 calculations use the number of students scoring 1500 or better divided by the number taking the test. This results in higher percentages such as 61% in 2007/08, compared to 26% in 2006/07.

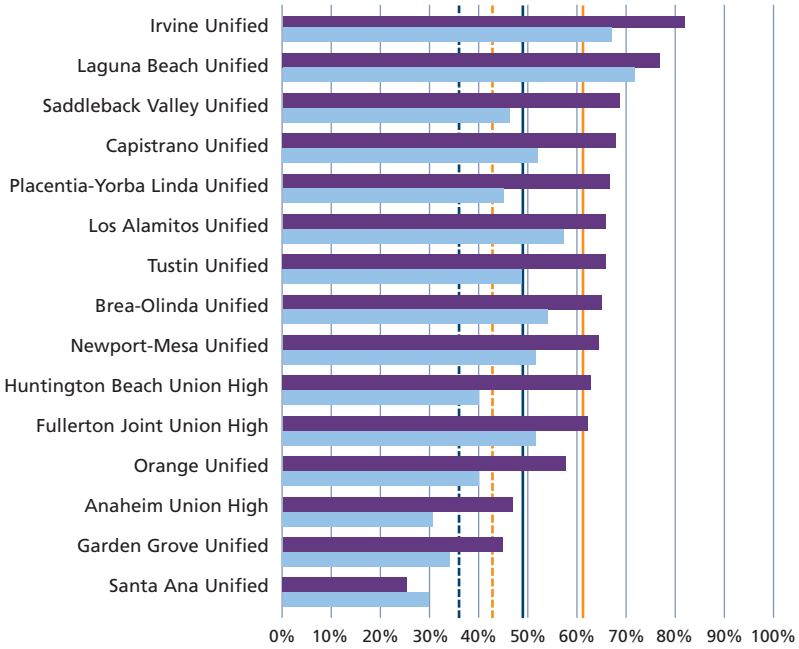
Percent of High School Graduates Eligible for UC/CSU Compared to Number of Graduates, by Race/Ethnicity
Orange County, 2007/08



Number of Graduates:
by Race/Ethnicity
Percent UC/CSU Eligible:
by Race/Ethnicity
Orange County (41%)
California (34%)

Note: "Asian" includes students identified as Asian, Pacific Islander, and Filipino. "Other" includes all races and/or ethnicities not otherwise shown in this chart, as well as multiple or no response.

Percent of 12th Grade Students Taking the SAT and Scoring 1500 or Better, by District
Orange County, 2007/08



Percent of Test-Takers Scoring 1500 or Better:
School District
Orange County (61%)
California (49%)

Percent Tested:
School District
Orange County (43%)
California (36%)

Note: The highest score possible is 2400.

Source: California Department of Education, DataQuest (http://data1.cde.ca.gov/dataquest/)

Most Districts Achieve or Exceed Statewide API Target

Description of Indicator

This indicator summarizes academic performance of K-12 public school districts as determined by the California Department of Education and the federal *No Child Left Behind Act* of 2001.

Why is it Important?

Tracking academic performance enables school administrators and the public to evaluate how well Orange County schools are meeting state and national standards.

How is Orange County Doing?

More schools met the California Department of Education academic performance target:

- In 2009, 19 out of 27 school districts had Academic Performance Index (API) scores above the statewide target of 800 – five more than the previous year.
- The average API score among Orange County school districts – currently 822 – rose 6% since 2005, and 15% since 2000.
- This is the second year in a row that the average Orange County API score exceeded 800.
- 89% of Orange County public schools met their state-identified API growth targets (districts do not have growth targets).

No Child Left Behind target performance is mixed:

- 41% of Orange County school districts achieved Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) in 2009, compared to 30% in 2008, and half in 2007.
- Twelve districts have been identified for Program Improvement, an increase of five districts since 2008.
- Only 63% of Orange County public schools met all the criteria to achieve AYP, remaining virtually the same as 2008, and down from 78% in 2007.
- 40% of Title I schools have been identified for Program Improvement.[1]

[1] Schools with a high percentage of students from low income families receive federal "Title I" funding.

Performance Targets

Statewide

The California Department of Education uses the Academic Performance Index (API) score to measure performance. The API – ranging from a low of 200 to a high of 1,000 – is calculated for each school based on the performance of individual pupils on several standardized tests. Schools that do not meet their state-identified Academic Performance Index (API) growth target and are ranked in the bottom half of the statewide distribution may be required to participate in an intervention program.

National

A school district is said to have achieved the national Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) threshold if the four *No Child Left Behind* targets have been met. These targets relate to: API Growth score, testing participation rate of 95% or better, the percentage of students performing at the proficient level or above in English-language arts and mathematics, and graduation rate targets for districts with high school students.

Program Improvement

A Title I school district that fails to make AYP for two consecutive years on the same criteria is identified for Program Improvement (PI) and must develop or revise a plan to improve performance and also reserve funds for professional development of its staff.[1] To exit PI status, a school must achieve Adequate Yearly Progress for two consecutive years. If after two years of PI status a school has not achieved AYP, it is subject to corrective action from the state Department of Education.

Average Academic Performance Index Scores Orange County, 2009 | **Adequate Yearly Progress** Orange County, 2009

	School District	2009 API	Achieved AYP	Program Improvement Status
Above State API Target	Irvine Unified	910	•	
	Los Alamitos Unified	893	•	
	Fountain Valley Elementary	889	•	
	Cypress Elementary	880	•	
	Huntington Beach City Elementary	878	•	
	Laguna Beach Unified	875	•	
	Capistrano Unified	857		
	Brea-Olinda Unified	854	•	
	Saddleback Valley Unified	848		
	Ocean View Elementary	847		Year 1
	Placentia-Yorba Linda Unified	838		Year 1
	Tustin Unified	837		
	Fullerton Elementary	837		Year 2
	Orange County Average	**822**	**N/A**	**N/A**
	Newport-Mesa Unified	813		
	Fullerton Joint Union High	807	•	Year 3
	Huntington Beach Union High	807		Year 2
	Centralia Elementary	804		
	Buena Park Elementary	803	•	Year 1
	Westminster Elementary	802		
Below State API Target	Magnolia Elementary	798		
	Orange Unified	797		Year 1
	Garden Grove Unified	792		Year 2
	Savanna Elementary	775	•	
	La Habra City Elementary	770	•	Year 3
	Anaheim City Elementary	749		Year 3
	Anaheim Union High	731		Year 2
	Santa Ana Unified	706		Year 3

Note: No entry in the Program Improvement Status column indicates the district has not been identified for Program Improvement.

Source: California Department of Education, DataQuest (http://data1.cde.ca.gov/dataquest/)

Highest Rate of English Learners Among Peers

Description of Indicator

This indicator measures public school enrollment of English Learners and bilingual students.

Why is it Important?

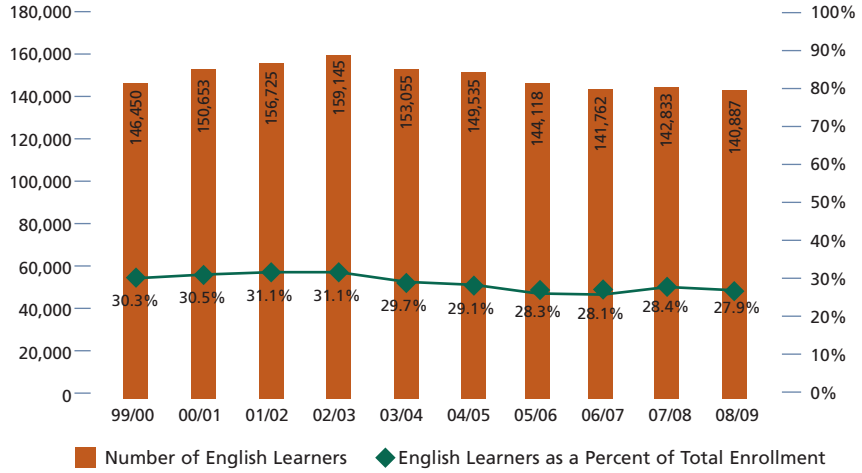
An educated workforce with good communication skills is important for a strong economy. Yet students with limited English speaking skills often face academic, employment and financial challenges. English Learners who become fluent in English can provide a rich employment resource for companies seeking to expand internationally (see World Trade).

How is Orange County Doing?

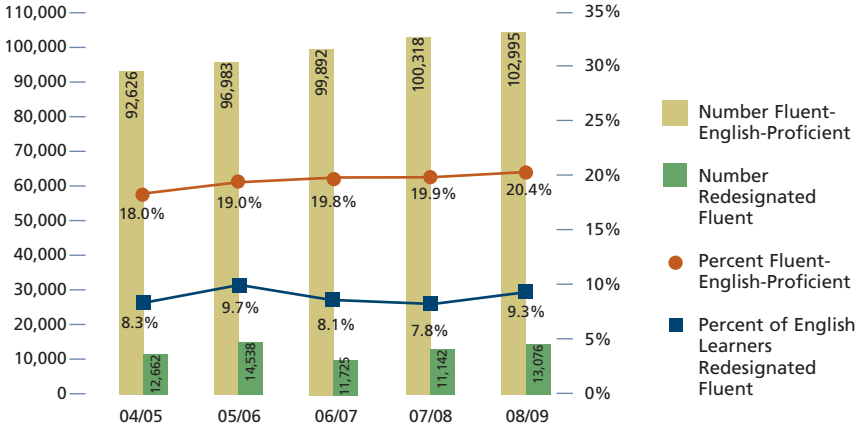
There were more bilingual students in 2008/09:

- Both the number and percent of total enrollment initially designated as bilingual (Fluent-English-Proficient) continues to increase.
- Although English Learner enrollment decreased by 1% in 2008/09, Orange County has the highest proportion of English Learners among California peers compared.
- 9.3% of students formerly designated as English Learners were redesignated bilingual in 2008/09, which is above the 10-year average of 7.9%.
- The majority of English Learners speak Spanish as their primary language (82%), followed by Vietnamese (9%) and Korean (3%).

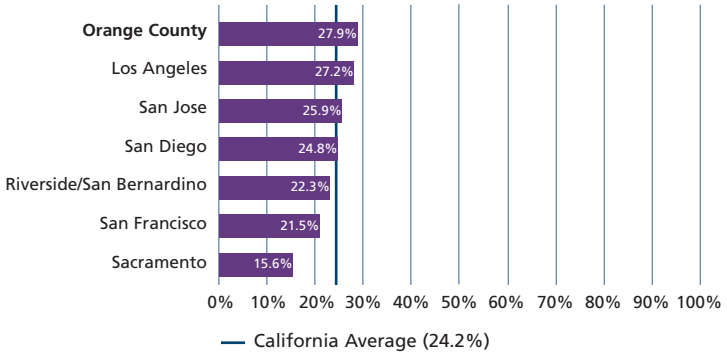
English Learners
Orange County, 2000-2009



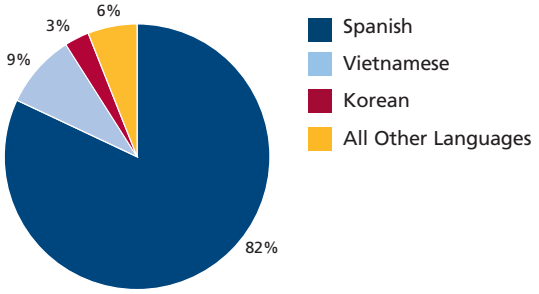
Fluent-English-Proficient Students and English Learners Redesignated Fluent-English-Proficient
Orange County, 2005-2009



English Learners as a Percent of Total Enrollment
Regional Comparison, 2008/09



English Learners by Primary Language
Orange County, 2008/09



Source: Department of Education, DataQuest (http://data1.cde.ca.gov/dataquest/)

Language Assessment Explained

When students enter school, their language skills are assessed and they are given a designation. Each spring, English Learners are reassessed to determine whether their designation should be changed. The designations are as follows:

English Learner: A student who does not speak English fluently.

Fluent-English-Proficient: A student whose primary language is not English but who is also fluent in English (bilingual).

Redesignated Fluent-English-Proficient: A student initially designated as an English Learner who has become fluent in English.

English Only/English Primary: Native English speakers for whom English is their primary or only language.

Community Health and Prosperity

Fewer mothers are getting prenatal care, yet children's immunizations are on the rise and accidental deaths are the lowest in 10 years. Students' physical fitness is improving slowly, but a quarter of our youth still need help achieving a healthy weight. Poverty is rising among seniors and more families are feeling the effects of the recession as evidenced by the increased demand for assistance programs. Nearly 30% more students are living in unstable housing compared to the previous year.

CALIFORNIA PEERS

Sacramento, San Francisco, San Jose

NEIGHBORS

Los Angeles, Riverside/San Bernardino, San Diego

Prenatal Care Rate Slips; Remains Above State Average

Description of Indicator

This indicator measures the percentage of live births to Orange County women who began prenatal care during the first three months of pregnancy, including racial and ethnic detail. Rates of early prenatal care in Orange County are also compared to peer counties and the state.

Why is it Important?

Early prenatal care provides an effective and cost-efficient way to prevent, detect and treat maternal and fetal medical problems. It provides an excellent opportunity for health care providers to offer counseling on healthy living habits that lead to optimal birth outcomes. Conditions such as low birth weight and infant mortality – which are often associated with late or no prenatal care – may also be avoided. Showing birth rates by ethnicity provides a glimpse into the future in terms of the coming school age population and overall demographic shifts in the county.

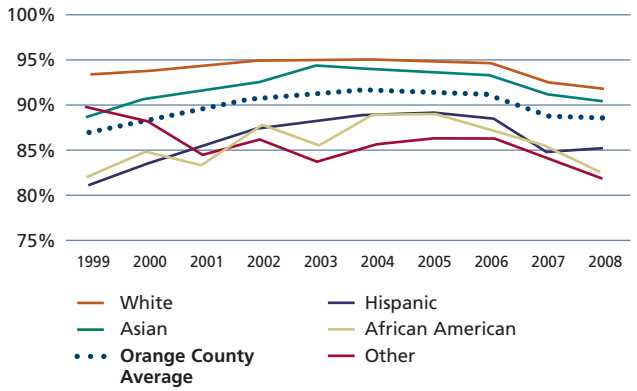
How is Orange County Doing?

Prenatal care rates continue to drop:

- Between 2002 and 2006, Orange County's prenatal care rate remained above the Healthy People 2010 objective of 90%.
- In 2005, the rate began to decline, dropping to 87.8% in 2008.
- Prenatal care rates for all races and ethnicities fell in 2008, with the exception of Hispanic mothers whose rate rose nearly one percentage point to 85.1%.
- Still, Orange County's rate exceeded the statewide rate of 80.7%.
- Due to similar decreases statewide, Orange County's rate of early prenatal care remains the highest among peers.
- The majority of births in Orange County are to Hispanic mothers (51.8%), followed by White mothers (28.8%), and Asian mothers (16.5%).
- In 2008, 42,456 babies were born in Orange County, the third highest number of babies born among California counties.

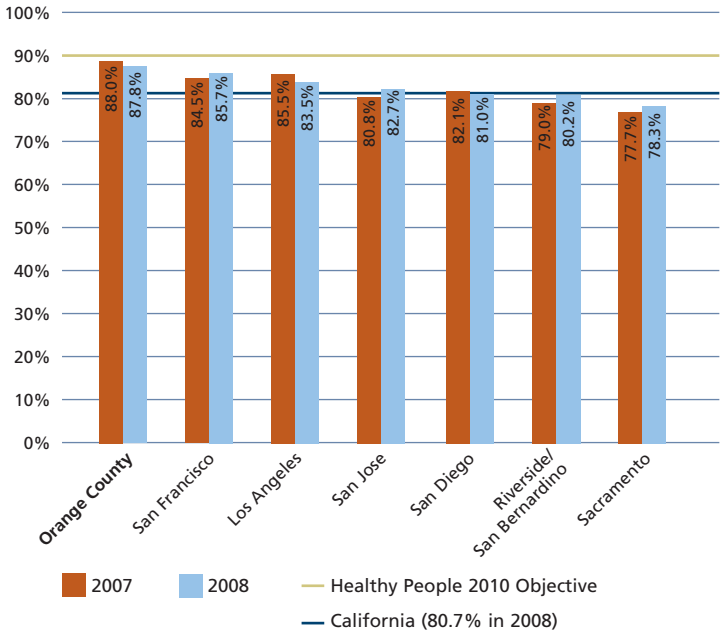
What is Healthy People 2010?
Healthy People 2010 is a national health promotion and disease prevention initiative which establishes national objectives to improve the health of all Americans, eliminate disparities, and increase the years and quality of healthy life.

Percent of Mothers Receiving Early Prenatal Care by Race and Ethnicity
Orange County, 1999-2008

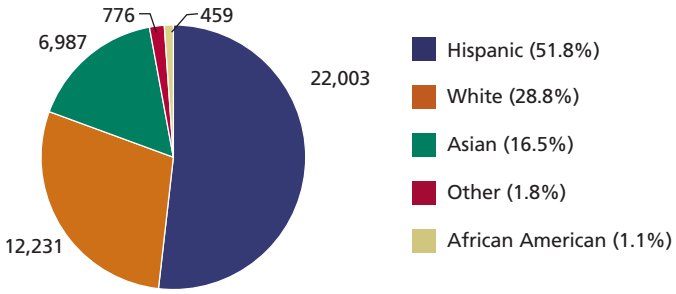


Note: The ethnic category "Hispanic" includes any race; the racial categories "White," "Asian," and "African American" are all non-Hispanic. "Other" includes the categories of two or more races, Pacific Islander, and American Indian/Native Alaskan.

Percent of Mothers Receiving Early Prenatal Care
Regional Comparison, 2007 and 2008



Live Births by Race and Ethnicity
Orange County, 2008



Sources: County of Orange Health Care Agency, Epidemiology and Assessment; California Department of Public Health

Accidents Continue Downward Trend

Description of Indicator

This indicator measures the leading causes of death for infants less than one year old and children ages one through four in Orange County (shown as raw number of deaths), with detail on the trend in accidental deaths. Also shown are deaths for children ages birth through four years due to all causes compared to peer California counties (shown as number of deaths per 100,000 children).

Why is it Important?

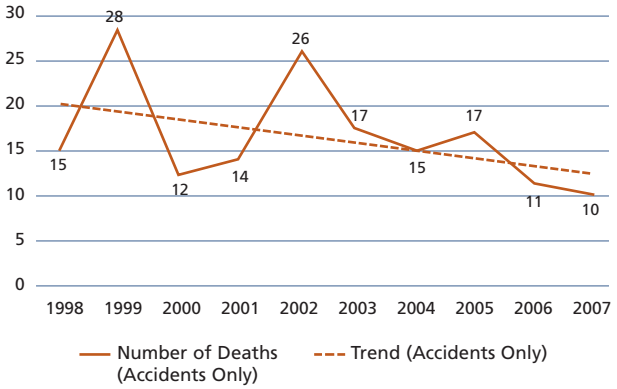
Awareness of the leading causes of death for children can lead to intervention strategies that can help prevent mortality. Many of these deaths are preventable through improved prenatal care and awareness.

How is Orange County Doing?

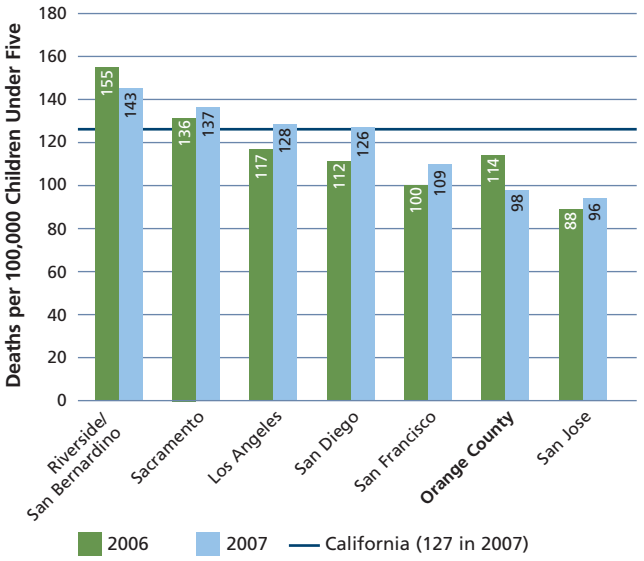
Deaths for children under five fell significantly in 2007 and are on an overall downward trend:

- The number of deaths among infants dropped from 224 in 2006 to 187 in 2007.
- There was little change in deaths among young children, with 29 in 2006 and 30 in 2007.
- In 2007, there was approximately one death for every 241 infants born in Orange County, and one in 5,917 among children ages one through four.
- Congenital defects (e.g. spina bifida) and chromosomal abnormalities (e.g. Down syndrome) continue to top the list of leading causes of infant deaths at 55.
- Accidents remain the leading cause of death for young children, but the 10-year trend is downward.

Number of Accidental Deaths Among Children
Orange County, 1998-2007



Death Rate Due to All Causes for Children Under Five
Regional Comparison, 2006 and 2007



Source: California Department of Public Health, Center for Health Services, Vital Statistics Query System (www.applications.dhs.ca.gov/vsq/default.asp)

Leading Causes of Death for Infants and Young Children
Orange County, 2007*

Cause of Death	Number of Deaths
Infants (Under Age One)	
Congenital Defects/Chromosomal Abnormalities	55
Cardiovascular Disorders	30
Prematurity/Low Birth Weight	16
Maternal Pregnancy Complications Affecting Newborn	12
Cord, Placenta or Membranes Complications	9
Neonatal Hemorrhage	6
All Other Causes	59
Young Children (Ages 1-4)	
Accidents	
Drowning	5
Motor Vehicle Accidents	5
Cancer	6
Endocrine, Nutritional or Metabolic Diseases	2
Homicide	2
Other Ill-defined or Unspecified Causes	2
All Other Causes	8

Note: Causes with fewer than five deaths for infants and fewer than two deaths for young children are included in "All Other Causes."

Source: County of Orange Health Care Agency, Family Health Division

*2007 cause of death data is considered preliminary.

Immunization Rate Increases

Description of Indicator

This indicator measures immunization rates for children at two years of age and reported cases of vaccine-preventable diseases (VPD) among children less than six years of age.

Why is it Important?

Immunization is one of the most important interventions available for preventing serious diseases among infants and children. The Healthy People 2010 immunization objective is for 90% of young children (age 1 1/2 to 2 3/4) to be protected by universally recommended vaccines.

How is Orange County Doing?

More children were adequately immunized at age two:

- In 2009, Orange County's immunization rate rose to 81%, three percentage points higher than the California average (78%), which also rose.[1]
- Over the past 10 years, there has been a 23% increase in immunization rates overall.

Orange County shows positive trends in VPD since 1999:

- Because of newly available vaccines and case reporting requirements, more VPD are reported today than when the Community Indicators report began tracking.
- The addition of new VPD since 2003 has led to a slightly upward trend in VPD over the past 10 years.
- However, when only tracking VPD cases reportable prior to 2003, the trend is toward fewer cases due to increased immunizations.
- In 2008, there were a total of 66 VPD cases with about half (34) among children under age one.
- Pneumococcal disease was the most common VPD with 29 cases, followed by 23 cases of pertussis (whooping cough).

Adequately Immunized

To be considered "adequately immunized" at age two, a child must have the following vaccinations: four doses of diphtheria/tetanus/pertussis (DTaP), three doses of polio, and one dose of measles/mumps/rubella (MMR). Other vaccines recommended by age two include: hemophilus influenza type B (Hib), hepatitis A, hepatitis B, pneumococcal disease, varicella (chicken pox), and annual flu shots.

Source: California Department of Public Health

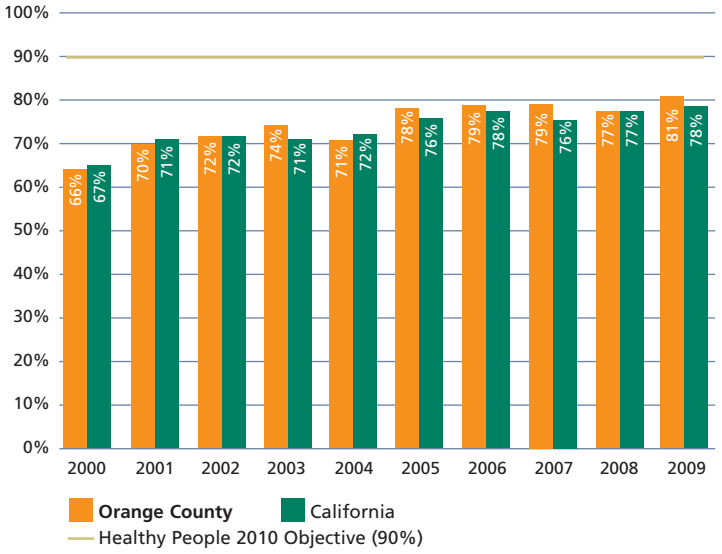
Immunization Registry

As of June 2009, there were 121,730 children ages 0-5 enrolled in the countywide computerized immunization registry that was launched in March 2005. The Healthy People 2010 objective is that 95% of children ages 0-5 are enrolled in an immunization registry. Currently, only 45% of Orange County children ages 0-5 are enrolled.

Sources: 15th Annual Report on the Conditions of Children in Orange County (www.ochealthinfo.com/cscc/report/); California Department of Finance, Race/Ethnic Population with Age and Sex Detail, 2000–2050 (www.dof.ca.gov/research/demographic/data/race-ethnic/2000-50/)

[1] Immunization rate data presented for "Orange County" includes Imperial, San Bernardino, Riverside, San Diego, and Orange Counties in the analysis.

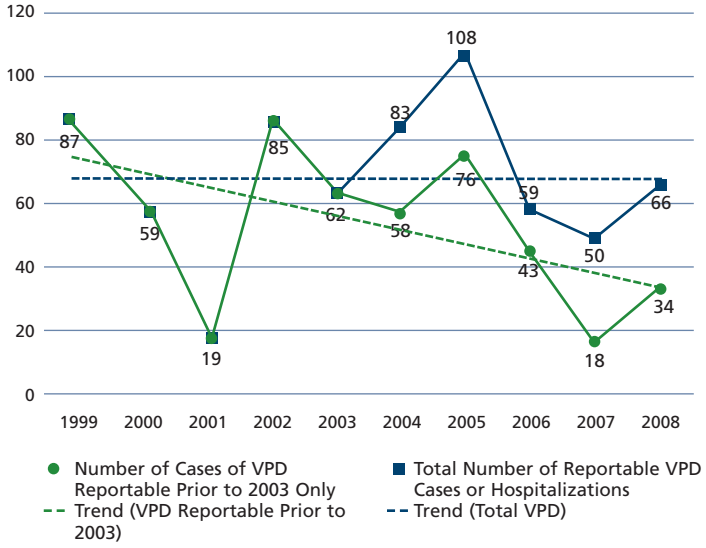
Percent of Children Adequately Immunized at Two Years of Age
Orange County and California, 2000-2009



Note: See Prenatal Care for a description of Healthy People 2010 objectives.

Sources: California Department of Public Health, Immunization Branch, Kindergarten Retrospective Survey (www.cdph.ca.gov/programs/immunize/Pages/ImmunizationLevels.aspx); 15th Annual Report on the Conditions of Children in Orange County (www.ochealthinfo.com/cscc/)

Vaccine-Preventable Disease (VPD) Cases or Hospitalizations Among Children Ages 0-5
Orange County, 1999-2008



Note: VPD since 1999 include polio, tetanus, diphtheria, pertussis, hepatitis A, hepatitis B, HIB, mumps, measles, and rubella. Total VPD includes all of the above plus pneumococcal disease (as of 2003) and varicella (chicken pox) hospitalization (as of 2004).

Source: County of Orange Health Care Agency, Epidemiology and Assessment

H1N1

Between April 9, 2009 and January 2, 2010, there were 199 severe cases and 45 deaths (all ages) due to the H1N1 virus in Orange County. While Orange County accounts for 8% of the total California population, 10% of statewide deaths due to H1N1 occurred in Orange County. This disparity may reflect higher rates of the disease or better reporting.

Sources: California Department of Public Health (www.cdph.ca.gov/data/statistics/Pages/H1N1FluData Tables.aspx); California Department of Finance, Table E-2 (www.dof.ca.gov/research/demographic/reports/)

Asthma Prevalence Among Children Declines Slightly

Description of Indicator

This indicator compares asthma diagnoses among Orange County children ages one through 17 to peer counties, the state, and nation. Asthma is characterized by recurrent episodes of breathlessness, wheezing, coughing, and chest tightness triggered by respiratory infections, exercise, or environmental factors.

Why is it Important?

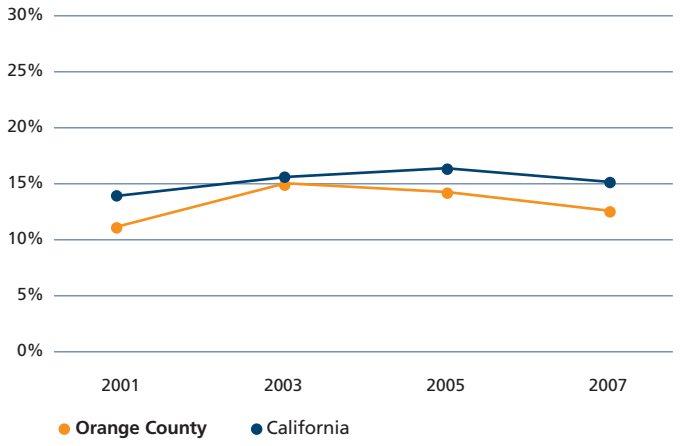
Nationwide, asthma prevalence has grown over the past two decades, especially among children. Children are more likely than adults to suffer an actual asthma attack and children with poorly controlled asthma are more than twice as likely to miss school than those whose symptoms are well-managed.[1]

How is Orange County Doing?

Asthma prevalence has fallen slightly since 2003:

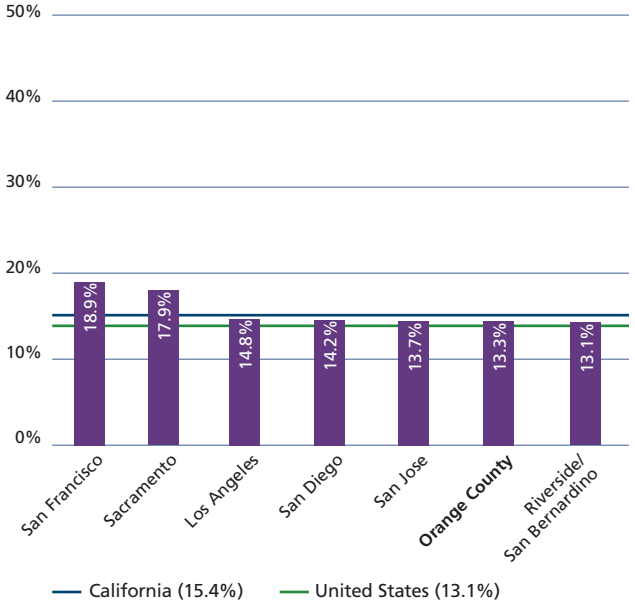
- As of 2007, 13.3% of children in Orange County have been diagnosed with asthma at some point in their lives. This is similar to the adult rate of 12.9%.
- Orange County's asthma rate is lower than the California average of 15.4% but higher than the national average of 13.1%.
- Among Orange County youth with asthma, 15.4% had visited an emergency room or urgent care facility to be treated for asthma symptoms in the 12 months prior to when the survey was fielded in 2007.

Children Ever Diagnosed with Asthma
Orange County and California, 2001-2007



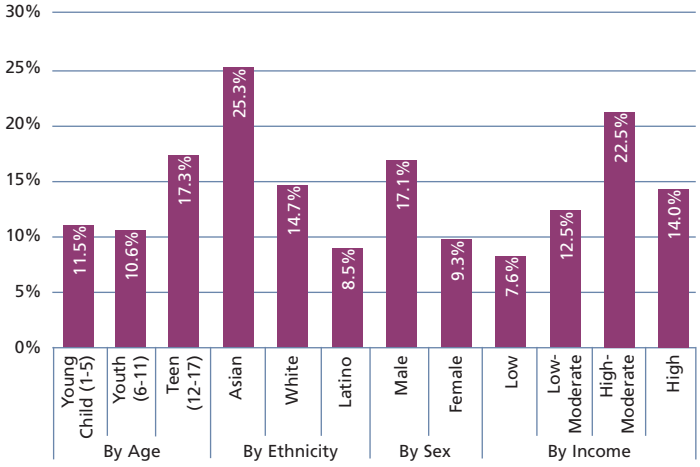
Source: University of California, Los Angeles, Center for Health Policy Research, California Health Interview Survey (www.chis.ucla.edu)

Children Ever Diagnosed with Asthma
Regional Comparison, 2007



Sources: University of California, Los Angeles, Center for Health Policy Research, California Health Interview Survey (www.chis.ucla.edu); Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics, Summary Health Statistics for U.S. Children: National Health Interview Survey (www.cdc.gov/nchs/about/major/nhis/reports_2007.htm)

Children Ever Diagnosed with Asthma (Age, Ethnic, Sex, and Income Detail)
Orange County, 2007



Note: Estimates for the subpopulations of Asian children and children living in families with High-Moderate incomes have large confidence intervals compared to the estimates for the other subpopulations. As a result, these estimates should be interpreted with caution.

Source: University of California, Los Angeles, Center for Health Policy Research, California Health Interview Survey (www.chis.ucla.edu)

[1] MedlinePlus, "Uncontrolled Asthma Leads to Missed School, Work," October 23, 2007 (www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/) based on research by David Tinkelman, M.D. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics, Asthma Prevalence, Health Care Use and Mortality: United States, 2003-2005 (www.cdc.gov/nchs/products/pubs/pubd/hestats/ashtma03-05/asthma03-05.htm)

Fitness Improves; Overweight Youth Estimates Remain Steady

Description of Indicator

This indicator measures the physical fitness and weight status of children through two sources. The California Department of Education's Fitnessgram is administered annually to 5th, 7th, and 9th graders and measures performance in six areas: aerobic capacity, body composition (overweight or underweight), abdominal strength, trunk extension strength, upper body strength, and flexibility. The center for Disease Control and Prevention's Pediatric Nutrition Surveillance System (PedNSS) tracks the percentage of children from low-income families who are considered overweight.

Why is it Important?

A sedentary lifestyle and being overweight are among the primary risk factors for many health problems. Building a commitment to fitness and maintaining a healthy body weight can have positive impacts on children's health now and into adulthood.

How is Orange County Doing?

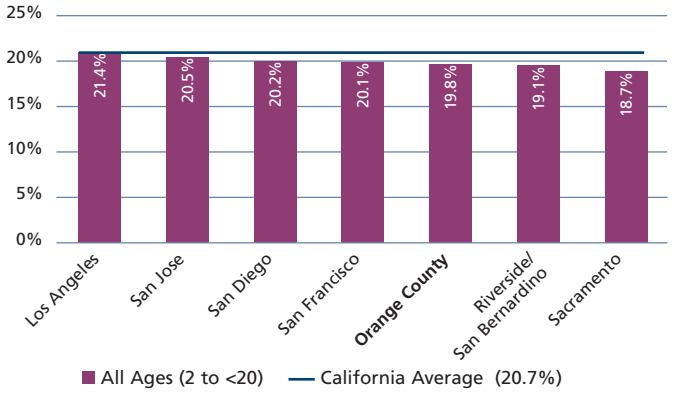
Student fitness levels continue to improve:

- Fitness levels rose in 2009 among all three grades tested.
- In 2009, 72% of students met the aerobic capacity standard (widely considered one of the most important components of fitness), compared to 65% in 2005.
- On average, Orange County students continue to perform better than the California average by five to nine percentage points.

Overweight youth estimates remained constant:

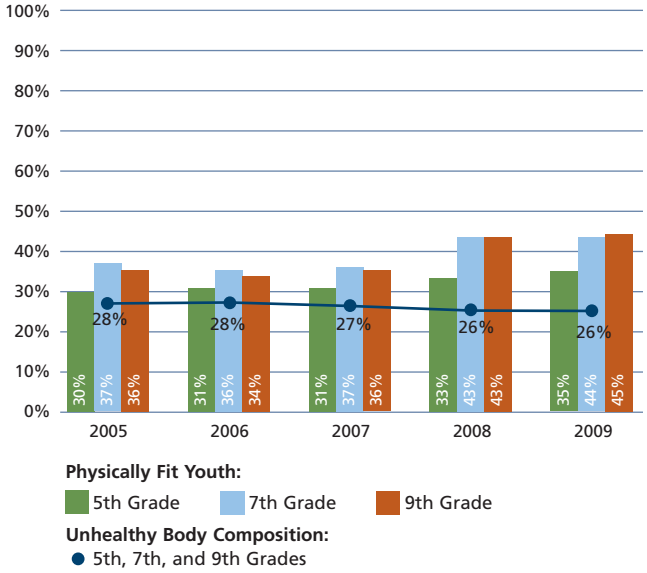
- In 2009, 26% of the students tested for the Fitnessgram were considered to have unhealthy body weight (typically overweight), the same as in 2008.[1]
- In 2008, PedNSS data revealed that 16.6% of young children and 21.2% of five to 20-year olds were overweight.
- Orange County's average proportion of 19.8% overweight youth is similar to peer regions, but less than the California average.
- Results from both data sources indicate that Orange County youth remain far from the Healthy People 2010 objective to reduce the percent of overweight youth ages six to 19 to 5%.

Percent Overweight Among Low-Income Youth
Regional Comparison, 2008



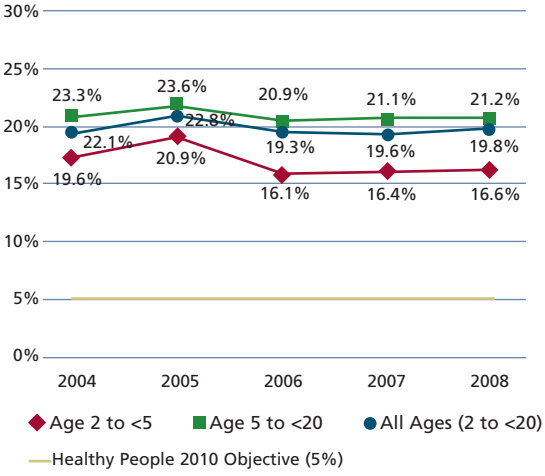
Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Pediatric Nutrition Surveillance System (http://www.dhcs.ca.gov/services/chdp/Pages/PedNSS2008.aspx)

Percent of 5th, 7th, and 9th Grade Students Achieving Six out of Six Fitness Standards and Percent with Unhealthy Body Composition, Orange County, 2005-2009



Source: California Department of Education (http://data1.cde.ca.gov/dataquest)

Percent Overweight Among Low-Income Youth
Orange County, 2004-2008



Note: See Prenatal Care for a description of Healthy People 2010 objectives.

Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Pediatric Nutrition Surveillance System (http://www.dhcs.ca.gov/services/chdp/Pages/PedNSS2008.aspx)

A California Health Interview Survey study found that low-income teenagers are more than twice as likely to be obese than their affluent peers. For more information, go to www.healthpolicy.ucla.edu/pubs/Publication.aspx?pubID=309#download.

[1] A small percentage (estimated at roughly 2%) of these proportions include underweight youth. Results by grade were aggregated and averaged.

Child Care Costs Higher than Average

Description of Indicator

This indicator measures child care quality and affordability including cost, supply and demand, and rating of child care programs.

Why is it Important?

Research on school readiness and children's brain development demonstrates the importance of high quality early education and care programs for young children. Affordable child care is essential for working families to maintain economic self-sufficiency.

How is Orange County Doing?

Working families continue to face high costs and lack of subsidized child care:

- Orange County has the third highest early care and education costs among all peers compared.
- Between 2002 and 2008, child care costs increased 25% on average, which is faster than the cumulative rate of inflation over the same period (18%).[1]
- Only 10% of Orange County children who qualify for subsidized child care receive subsidized care.[2]

Among families seeking licensed care, it is estimated that only 57% are able to find available space:

- Licensed early care and education spaces for preschool age children are the least constrained of the age groups, yet there is still an estimated unmet need for an additional 28,531 spaces.
- Among infants, toddlers and school age children, less than one-half of the estimated demand is met.

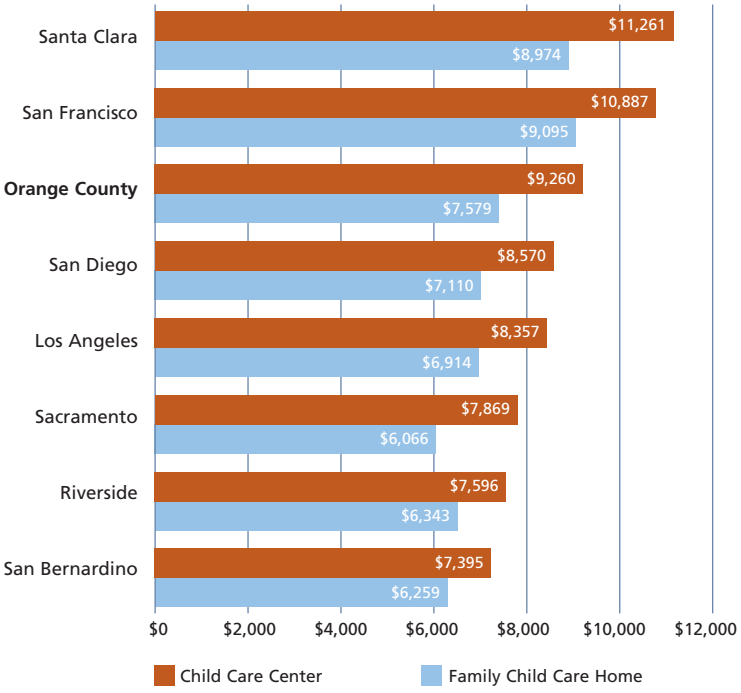
The Impact of the Economic Recession on Child Care Demand
The recession may be temporarily easing pressure on demand for child care services as parents who have lost jobs take their children out of care, or as parents turn to shift work to save on child care costs by alternating care with the other parent, a family member, or a friend. However, the need for subsidized care persists. As of January 2010, there were 9,917 qualified children on the Centralized Eligibility List waiting for a subsidized space to open.

United Way Star-Quality Rating of Child Care Programs
Orange County, January 2010

Rating	Number of Programs with Rating
★★★★★	51
★★★★	3
★★★	21
★★	5
★	9
Awaiting Rating	9

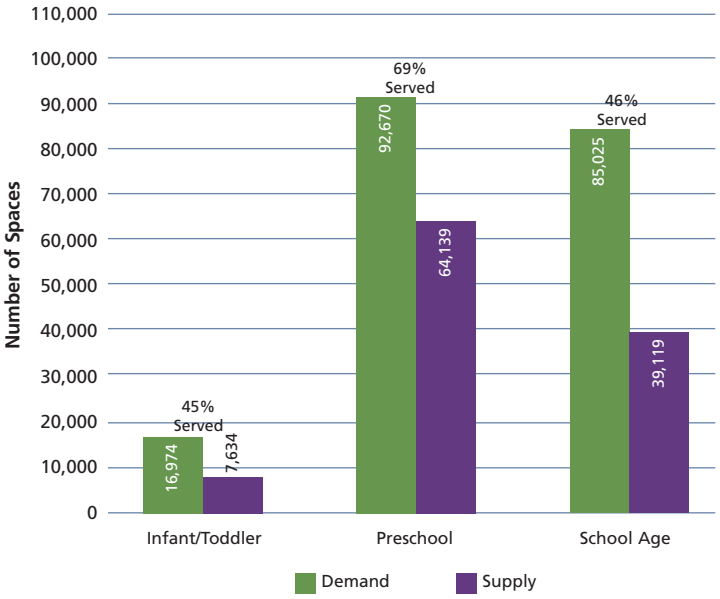
Source: United Way of Orange County

Average Annual Full-Time Child Care Costs
County Comparison, 2008



Source: California Department of Education (www.cde.ca.gov/fg/aa/cd/ap/index.aspx)

Estimated Supply and Demand for Licensed Early Care and Education Spaces
Orange County, 2008



Source: County of Orange Social Services Agency

The **United Way of Orange County's Star-Quality Rating System** recognizes improvements in child care programs through an incremental rating system, ranging from one-star (indicating the program is in good standing with state licensing standards) to five-stars (indicating a program has achieved accreditation from the National Association for the Education of Young Children).

[1] U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, based on Consumer Price Index data (www.bls.gov/data/inflation_calculator.htm)
[2] Children's Home Society of Orange County, Centralized Eligibility List

Welfare Enrollment Grows 13%

Description of Indicator

This indicator measures Orange County low income families' progress toward self-sufficiency and economic stability by tracking enrollment in core public assistance programs and the proportion of children living in low income families.

Why is it Important?

The challenges associated with poverty – stress, strained family relationships, substandard housing, lower educational attainment, limited employment skills, unaffordable child care, and transportation difficulties – make it hard for low income families to obtain and maintain employment. Economic stability can have lasting benefits for both parents and children.

How is Orange County Doing?

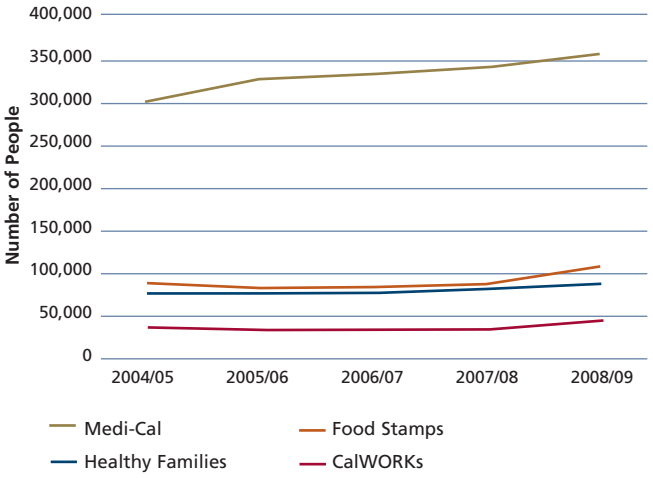
The economic recession is having a measurable effect on low income families:

- The number of people receiving CalWORKs cash assistance (43,608 in 2008/09) increased 13% in one year.
- The proportion of Welfare-to-Work participants in Employment activities fell from 66% in 2007/08 to 58% in 2008/09, suggesting recipients are having increased difficulties finding jobs. Participation fell less dramatically in Education and Services.
- Food Stamps enrollment jumped 24% in one year to 109,491 people, or 3.5% of the total county population.[1]
- Medi-Cal enrollment grew 5%, while Healthy Families enrollment rose 7%.
- In addition to current economic conditions, increasing enrollments also reflect expanded eligibility and increased efforts to enroll income-eligible people.

The proportion of Orange County children living in low income families grew sharply in 2008/09:

- 43% of students were eligible for free or reduced-price school meals, an increase of 8% in one year and 13% since 1999/00.
- A child is eligible if his or her family's income is below 185% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines (e.g. $40,793 for a family of four in 2009).[2]
- Wide disparities within the county persist with the highest rate of eligibility in Santa Ana Unified School District (83%) and the lowest rate of eligibility in Laguna Beach Unified School District (6%).

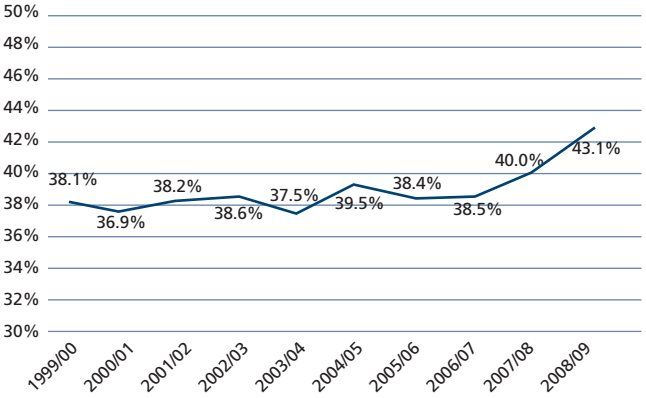
Major Public Assistance Program Enrollment
Orange County, 2005-2009



Note: Food Stamps and Medi-Cal counts include all persons who receive Medi-Cal and Food Stamps - both those who receive CalWORKs and those who do not.

Sources: County of Orange Social Services Agency; State of California, Managed Risk Medical Insurance Board, Healthy Families

Children Eligible for Free or Reduced-Priced School Meals
Orange County, 2000-2009



Source: California Department of Education, DataQuest (http://data1.cde.ca.gov/dataquest/)

Program Descriptions

Most programs require income and asset limitations, as well as citizenship or permanent legal resident status. Other eligibility factors may apply such as county or state residency, age, or time in the program (time-limits).

- **CalWORKS** provides cash benefits for the care of low income children.
- **Welfare-to-Work** participation is required of most adult CalWORKs recipients. Participants may enroll in one or more of the following activities each month:
  - *Employment*: participant has a job or is engaged in training, job search, work-study, or internships
  - *Education*: participant is enrolled in school
  - *Services*: participant is enrolled in mental health counseling, substance abuse treatment, or domestic abuse programs
- **Food Stamps** provides low income households with assistance for the purchase of food.
- **Medi-Cal** is a health care program for certain low income populations.
- **Healthy Families** is a health insurance program for children under 19 years who do not qualify for free (zero share-of-cost) Medi-Cal.

[1] California Department of Finance, Table E-4 (www.dof.ca.gov/HTML/DEMOGRAP/ReportsPapers/ReportsPapers.php)
[2] Health and Human Services Federal Poverty Guidelines 2009 (http://aspe.hhs.gov/poverty/09poverty.shtml)

More Homeless and Unstably-Housed Students

Description of Indicator

This indicator measures Orange County families' progress toward housing stability by tracking availability of rental assistance and children that are homeless or living in unstable housing arrangements. For additional countywide housing trends, see Housing Demand, Housing Affordability, and Rental Affordability.

Why is it Important?

High housing costs force many families into living conditions they would not choose otherwise. Living doubled- or tripled-up with another family due to economic constraints can place stress on personal relationships, housing stock, public services and infrastructure. When shared housing is not an option, or if other factors arise, such as foreclosure, financial loss, or domestic violence, the result can be homelessness.

How is Orange County Doing?

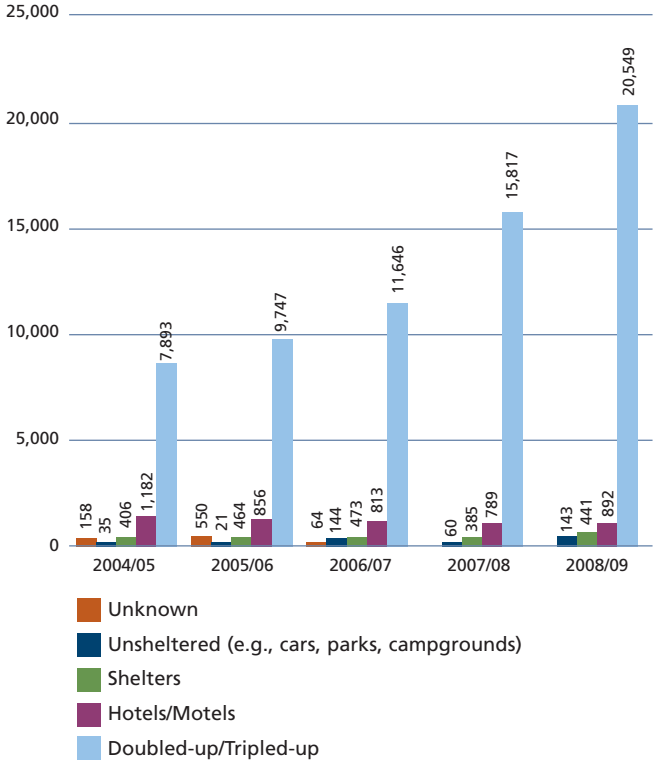
Most residents seeking rental assistance will wait many years for a voucher unless conditions or funding levels change:

- In November 2005, the Orange County Housing Authority (OCHA) accepted over 18,000 applications for assistance. As of October 2009, there were approximately 9,700 applicants still waiting on the list for a Housing Choice Voucher.
- During 2009, OCHA used all of its allocated vouchers to assist an average of 9,575 households each month and issued approximately 700 vouchers to applicants on the waiting list (to replace families that terminated from the program).
- The voucher supply remains limited because housing authorities have not had the opportunity to apply to the federal government for additional vouchers since 2003.
- However, during 2009, OCHA was successful in receiving 80 additional vouchers reserved for the Veteran Affairs Supportive Housing Program.

Federal law requires public school districts to report the number of students living in shelters or unsheltered in cars, parks or campgrounds, as well as students living in motels or with another family due to economic hardship:

- In 2008/09, there was a 29% increase in the number of students in grades Pre-K through 12 who were identified as living in one of these unstable housing conditions (22,025).[1]
- Families living doubled- or tripled-up are the largest and fastest growing cohort, with 20,549 students living in these conditions.
- Additionally, 892 students live in motels, 441 live in shelters, and 143 live unsheltered in cars, parks or campgrounds.
- The highest proportion of homeless and unstably-housed students are in second grade.
- Orange County has proportionately fewer homeless and unstably-housed students than the statewide average (43.7 and 46.1 per 1,000 students, respectively).

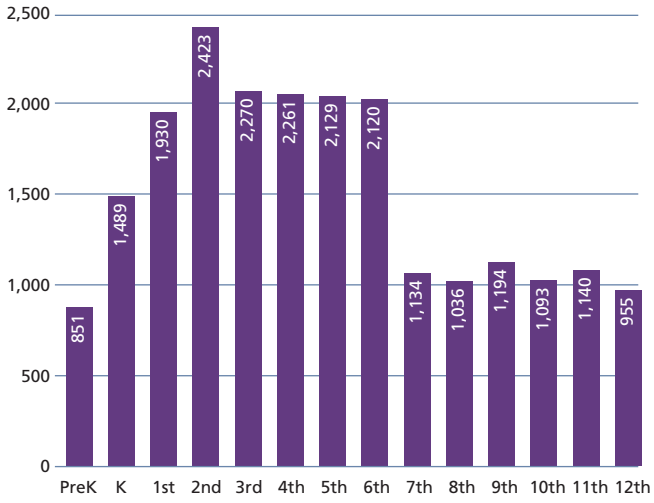
Homeless and Unstably-Housed Pre-K through 12th Grade Students, by Primary Nighttime Residence
Orange County, 2005-2009



Note: The category "unknown" was discontinued after 2006/07.

Source: Orange County Department of Education

Homeless and Unstably-Housed Students, by Grade
Orange County, 2008/09



Source: Orange County Department of Education

[1] Districts are able to make changes to reported counts so these figures may be subject to revision.

Significant Improvement in Health Insurance Coverage

Description of Indicator

This indicator measures health insurance coverage and the types of coverage. It also shows the consistency of coverage (full, partial, or no coverage in the past year) by age, race and ethnicity, and income.

Why is it Important?

Access to quality health care is heavily influenced by health insurance coverage. Because health care is expensive, individuals who have health insurance are more likely to seek routine medical care and to take advantage of preventive health screening services than those without such coverage – resulting in a healthier population and more cost-effective health care.

How is Orange County Doing?

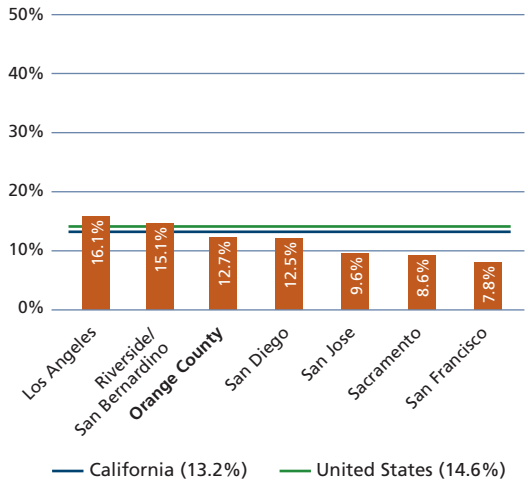
The proportion of uninsured in Orange County fell:

- In 2007, Orange County's rate of uninsured (12.7%) fell below state and national averages.
- From a high of 16.3% uninsured in 2003, the 2007 rate marked a 23% decrease.
- The majority of people are covered by their employer (58%), followed by publicly-funded coverage (23%), and privately purchased insurance (7%).

Health insurance coverage and consistency varies by population:

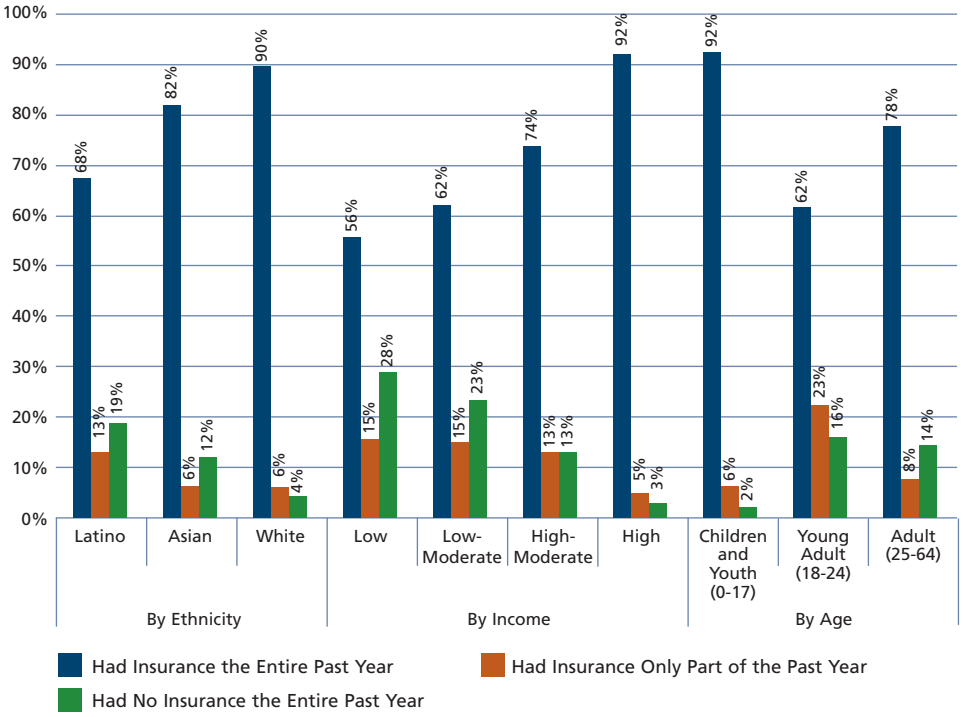
- In 2007, 80% of Orange County residents ages zero through 64 had coverage the entire past year.
- The remaining 20% either had no insurance in the past year (11%) or were insured for only part of the year (9%).
- 90% of White residents had consistent coverage compared to 82% of Asians and 68% of Latinos.
- Despite the disparities, both Asian and Latino residents improved consistency of coverage since 2005, up six and eight percentages points, respectively.
- Children and youth were more likely to have consistent coverage (92%) than young adults (62%) and adults between 25 and 64 years of age (78%).
- Children and youth with consistent coverage increased three percentage points since 2005, while young adults increased by five points and adults between 25 and 64 remained unchanged.

Uninsured (All Ages)
Regional Comparison, 2007



Sources: California Health Interview Survey, University of California, Los Angeles (www.chis.ucla.edu); National Health Interview Survey, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (www.cdc.gov/nchs)

Consistency of Coverage in the Past Year by Ethnicity, Income, and Age (Ages 0-64)
Orange County, 2007



Note: Percentages may not add up to 100% due to rounding.

Source: California Health Interview Survey, University of California, Los Angeles (www.chis.ucla.edu)

Crime, Abuse Decline; Support Services Increase

Description of Indicator

This indicator measures the economic, safety, and health status of Orange County older adults (65 years of age and over).[1]

Why is it Important?

Orange County's older population is expected to increase by 94% between 2010 and 2030, and experience a significant shift in racial and ethnic composition. These trends will place greater and changing demands on health, transportation and support services for this population.

How is Orange County Doing?

Older residents have unique economic conditions:

- The 2008 median household income of Orange County's older adults is $47,254, approximately $28,000 less than the county median of $75,078.
- Many older residents live on fixed incomes which have reduced in purchasing power over the span of their retirement.
- Approximately 7.6% of older adults are living under the poverty level, an increase of 23% since 1999.[2]
- Over this same 10-year period, poverty among seniors increased at a slower rate statewide (7%), while there was no change nationwide.
- 78% of older adults own a home, compared to 57% of the non-senior adult population.

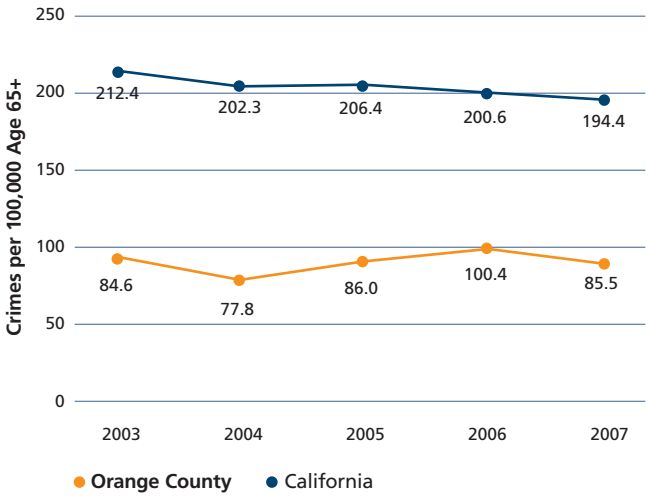
Although most are healthy, demand for support services is growing:

- According to the 2007 California Health Interview Survey, as many as 73% of older adults rate their health as "excellent," "very good" or "good," while 7% rate their health as "poor."
- About one-third (33%) of older adults have a disability, compared to 5% of the non-senior adult population.
- Over 1.7 million congregate and in-home meals were served to older adults in 2008/09 by the County of Orange Office on Aging, representing an increase of 45% since 2004/05.
- Demand among seniors for the County of Orange Social Services Agency's (SSA) In-Home Supportive Services program increased 8% between 2008 and 2009, and increased 50% since 2005.

Crime and abuse reports decline:

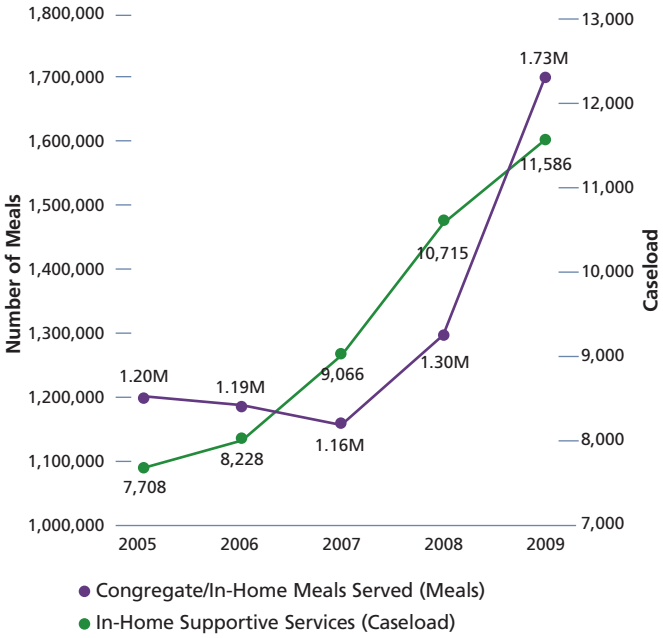
- Orange County has a significantly lower rate of violent crime against older adults than the statewide average.
- After more than 10 years of rising crime against seniors, Orange County's rate of violent crime against seniors fell sharply in 2008 (-15%). Robbery and aggravated assault were the most common crimes.
- Elder abuse reported to SSA fell 2% in 2008/09 to 376 cases, but rose 18% since 2004/05.
- Elder abuse includes self-neglect as well as abuse by others including neglect or financial, physical, or emotional abuse.

Violent Crime Against Seniors
Orange County and California, 2003-2007



Sources: California Department of Justice, Criminal Justice Statistics Center, Special Requests Unit; U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey (www.census.gov)

Older Adult Support Services and Abuse Reports
Orange County, 2005-2009



Note: Data for In-Home Supportive Services is the caseload as of June of a given year; Congregate/In-Home Meals served are by fiscal year (2009 refers to 2008/09). In-Home Supportive Services include domestic assistance, personal and paramedical care, and protective supervision to prevent self-harm.

Sources: County of Orange Social Services Agency (IHSS); County of Orange Community Services/Office on Aging (C/IHMS)

[1] Data is from the U.S. Census Bureau, 2008 American Community Survey unless otherwise noted.
[2] Census 2000 (Census 2000 poverty data reflects those with poverty status in 1999)

Nearly 5% of Residents Estimated to Have Mental Illness

Description of Indicator

This indicator measures the need for and access to mental health care services. It also measures the number of clients served by publicly-funded Orange County mental health programs compared to the estimated need for services among various income levels.

Why is it Important?

Mental health disorders often go unreported and untreated. If left untreated, mental health disorders can worsen and lead to difficulties in the home and workplace, and in severe cases, suicide.

How is Orange County Doing?

Publicly-funded mental health programs serve between 33% and 72% of the estimated need for mental health services:

- In 2007, an estimated 138,272 residents of any income (4.6% of the population) and 62,609 of low-income residents (7.7% of the low-income population) had a serious mental illness in need of treatment.[1]
- In 2007/08, 45,223 Orange County residents (1.5% of the total population) were served by an Orange County Health Care Agency mental health program.[2]
- This reflects a gap of between 17,386 and 93,049 residents needing care who – as an alternative to County-funded services – may obtain private care or no care at all.
- Slightly more residents statewide (5.2%) are estimated to have serious mental illness than Orange County residents (4.6%), with roughly the same proportionate gap in need compared to services accessed.

Residents of all ages are affected by mental and behavioral health conditions:

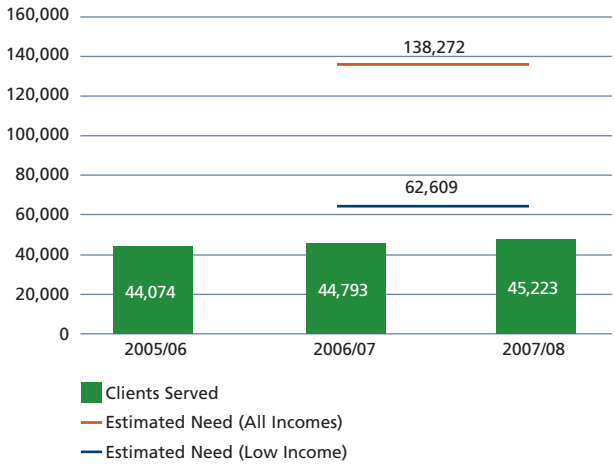
- Children ages 0 to 5 accounted for 4% of the Orange County Health Care Agency's mental health clients in 2007/08.
- This is equivalent to less than 1% of the population ages 0 to 5, which is far less than the estimated proportion of low income children of this age needing care (9%).
- Youth ages 6 to 18 accounted for 27% of the clients served, adults ages 19 to 64 accounted for 64%, and seniors age 65 and over accounted for the remaining 5%.
- With the exception of low-income seniors, all age ranges have estimated needs that outweigh the number of clients served.

The Mental Health/Substance Abuse Connection

Adults with serious psychological distress (SPD) are more likely than the general population to use illicit drugs, be heavy drinkers, or participate in binge drinking. Nationwide, 22.3% of adults with SPD were dependent on or abused illicit drugs or alcohol, compared to 7.7% of adults without SPD. Adults suffering from depression are also more likely than the general population to abuse drugs or alcohol.

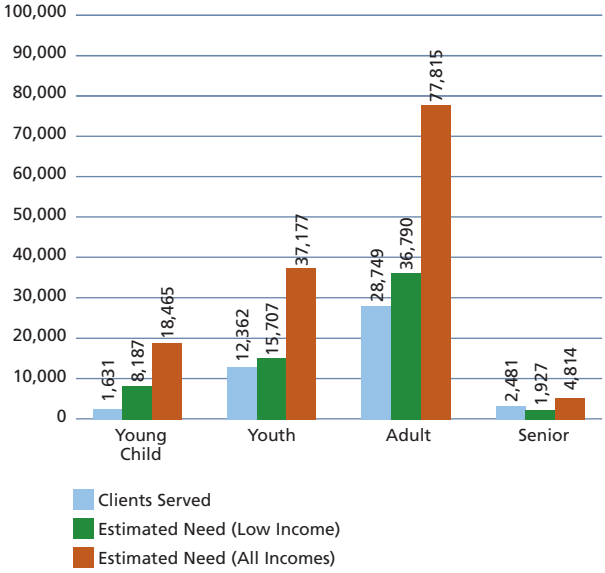
Source: Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, 2006 National Survey on Drug Use and Health (www.samhsa.gov)

Unduplicated Count of Clients Served by Orange County Health Care Agency Programs Compared to Estimated Need for Mental Health Services
Orange County, 2006-2008



Sources: Orange County Health Care Agency, Behavioral Health Services; California Department of Mental Health, Client and Services Information System, 2005/06-2007/08; California Department of Mental Health, Series P5 Estimates of Need for Mental Health Services for Serious Mental Illness, 2007 (www.dmh.cahwnet.gov/Statistics_and_Data_Analysis/Prevalence_Rates.asp)

Unduplicated Count of Clients Served by Orange County Health Care Agency Mental Health Programs Compared to Estimated Need by Age
Orange County, 2007/08



Source: California Department of Mental Health, Client and Services Information System, 2007/08; California Department of Mental Health, Series P5 Estimates of Need for Mental Health Services for Serious Mental Illness, 2007 (www.dmh.cahwnet.gov/Statistics_and_Data_Analysis/Prevalence_Rates.asp)

[1] California Department of Mental Health, Series P5 Estimates of Need for Mental Health Services for Serious Mental Illness, 2007
[2] California Department of Mental Health, Statistics and Data Analysis - CSI Unit; California Department of Mental Health, Series P5 Estimates of Need for Mental Health Services for Serious Mental Illness, 2007

Substance Use by Orange County Youth is Lower than State

Description of Indicator

A variety of commonly used indicators are shown to help gauge the extent of alcohol and other drug (AOD) abuse. These include AOD use among youth, AOD-related deaths and arrests, admissions to treatment facilities, and alcohol-involved car collisions.

Why is it Important?

A broad spectrum of public health and safety problems are directly linked with substance abuse including addiction, traffic accidents, domestic violence, crime, unintended pregnancy, and serious conditions such as cancer, liver disease, HIV/AIDS, and birth defects.

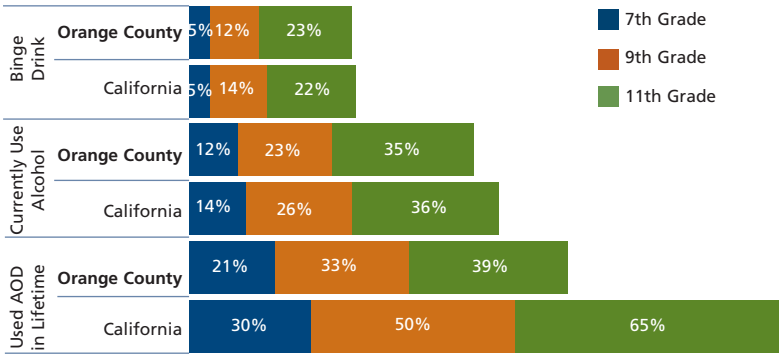
How is Orange County Doing?

Substance abuse in Orange County is less than the California average:

- In 2007/08, compared to the California average, Orange County high school youth engaged with similar frequency in binge drinking, slightly less frequently in current alcohol use, and were significantly less likely to have used alcohol or other drugs in their lifetimes.
- Among Orange County's 11th graders, 51% reported that alcohol would be very easy for them to get and approximately 27% reported driving after drinking or being in a car with someone who had been drinking and driving.
- Orange County's rate of death caused by chronic liver disease and cirrhosis has remained virtually unchanged, while drug-induced deaths increased slightly.
- Between 2006 and 2008, drug-related arrests fell 14% while alcohol-related arrests increased by 10%. However, the overall arrest rate remained below the statewide average.
- Drug-related admissions – which far surpass alcohol-related admissions – dropped 21% between 2007/08 and 2008/09, while alcohol-related admissions dropped 12%.
- 65% of teens admitted for AOD treatment abused marijuana compared to 7% of adults. Adults are most likely to be admitted for methamphetamine addiction (48%, compared to only 13% of teen admissions).
- Over the past five years, Orange County has maintained a consistently lower rate of alcohol-involved injury and fatal motor vehicle collisions than the state averages.[1]

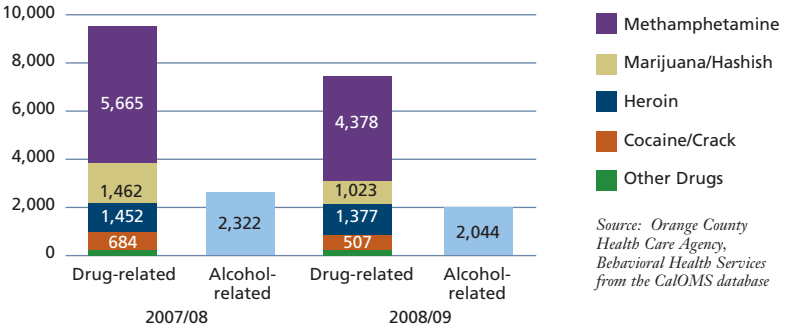
[1] California Highway Patrol (www.chp.ca.gov/switrs) and California Department of Justice, Criminal Justice Statistics Center, Population Estimates (http://ag.ca.gov/cjsc/publications/profiles/pub.php)

Percent of Youth Who Engage in Binge Drinking, Currently Use Alcohol, or Have Ever Used AOD
Orange County and California, 2007/08



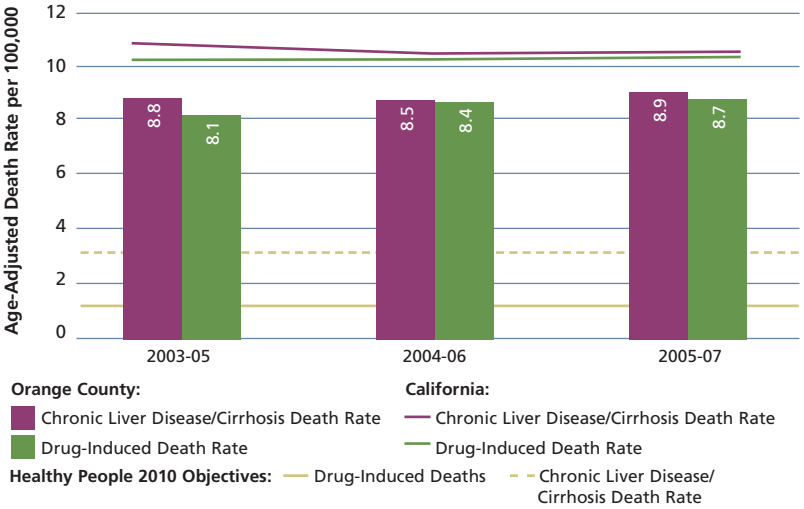
Source: WestEd, California Healthy Kids Survey (www.wested.org/chks/pdf/CA_Upper_0608_tr.pdf and www.wested.org/chks/pdf/rpts_dl/f06s_30_30000_ca.pdf)

Alcohol- and Drug-Related Admissions to Publicly-Funded or State-Licensed Recovery and Treatment Services, All Ages
Orange County, 2007/08 and 2008/09



Source: Orange County Health Care Agency, Behavioral Health Services from the CalOMS database

Drug- and Alcohol-Related Deaths
Orange County and California, 2003-2007 (Three-Year Averages)



Note: See Prenatal Care for a description of Healthy People 2010 objectives. The Healthy People 2010 objective for alcohol-related deaths is the objective for deaths due to cirrhosis of the liver. Cirrhosis is the final phase of alcoholic liver disease. Counties with varying age compositions can have widely disparate death rates since the risk of dying is mostly a function of age. To enable county comparisons, age-adjusted death rates, which control for this variability, are used rather than crude death rates.

Source: California Department of Public Health, Office of Health Information and Research (www.cdph.ca.gov/programs/ohir/Pages/CHSP.aspx)

Death Rates Decline For Most Causes

Description of Indicator

This indicator reports mortality rates (age-adjusted deaths per 100,000 people) and progress toward the Healthy People 2010 objectives for commonly measured health-status indicators.[1] AIDS and HIV data are also presented.

Why is it Important?

Viewing the county in relation to statewide averages and national health objectives identifies public health issues that are comparatively more or less pronounced in Orange County. This information helps the development and prioritization of public health initiatives.

How is Orange County Doing?

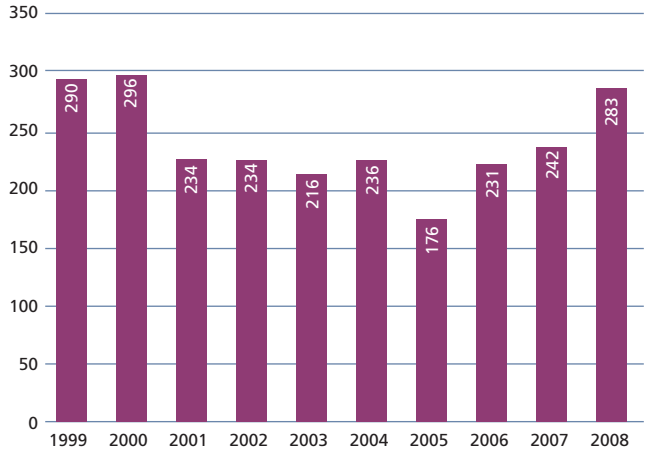
Orange County's health status continues to improve:

- Orange County's death rates improved for every category measured except drug-induced deaths, which remained the same.
- The county continued to meet national objectives for lung, breast and prostate cancers, as well as the general category of "all cancers," heart disease, stroke, motor vehicle accidents, and homicide.
- Death rates due to heart disease, stroke, and motor vehicle accidents declined the most in the past year.
- Orange County's death rates are lower than the California average for all causes compared except Alzheimer's.

AIDS cases in Orange County continue to rise, largely attributable to increases in testing and reporting:

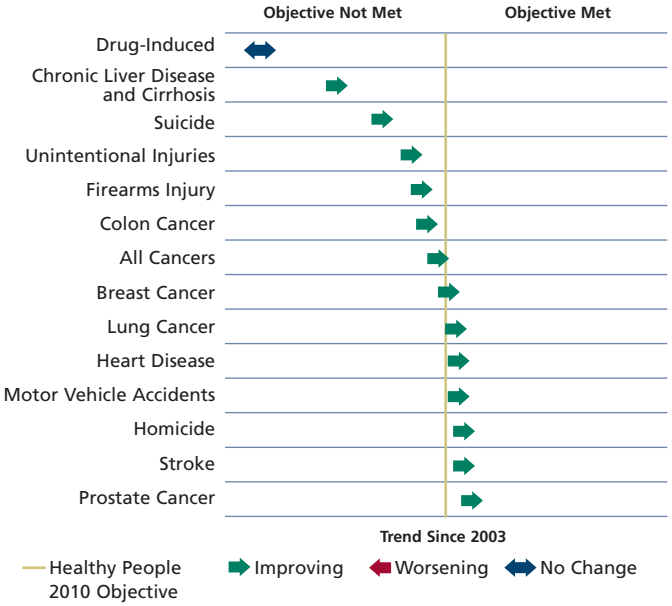
- As of December 2008, approximately 3,789 people were living with AIDS in Orange County – 283 of which were cases newly diagnosed within the year.
- Latinos and African Americans are disproportionately impacted by AIDS.
- 2,648 HIV cases were reported between April 17, 2006 and December 31, 2008.

AIDS Cases by Year of Report
Orange County, 1999-2008



Source: Orange County Health Care Agency, HIV/AIDS Surveillance and Monitoring Program (www.ochealthinfo.com/public/hiv/local.htm)

Age-Adjusted Death Rates: Progress Towards 2010 Objectives
Orange County, 2007



Note: Deaths due to Diabetes, Chronic Lower Respiratory Disease, Alzheimer's, and Influenza or Pneumonia do not have a Healthy People 2010 objective and are therefore not included in this chart.

Source: California Department of Public Health, County Health Status Profiles (www.cdph.ca.gov/programs/ohir/Pages/CHSP.aspx)

Orange County Age-Adjusted Death Rate Ranking and Comparison to California Average, 2007

Rank Among California Counties	Cause of Death
5	Unintentional Injuries
6	Firearms Injury
6	Motor Vehicle Accidents
12	Drug-Induced
14	Chronic Lower Respiratory Disease
14	Lung Cancer
14	Suicide
16	Chronic Liver Disease and Cirrhosis
18	All Cancers
20	Breast Cancer
20	Colon Cancer
21	Prostate Cancer
21	Diabetes
23	Homicide
25	Stroke
37	Heart Disease
39	Influenza or Pneumonia
41	Alzheimer's Disease

Better than California Average
Worse than California Average

Note: Ordered by Orange County's rank among California counties (one is best, 58 is worst).

Source: California Department of Public Health, County Health Status Profiles

[1] See Substance Abuse for an explanation of age-adjusted death rates. See Prenatal Care for an explanation of Healthy People 2010.

Public Safety

Overall, crime **trends improved** including hate crime, juvenile crime, domestic violence, and child abuse. However, **gang-related** crime now makes up nearly 10% of all felony filings in Orange County.

NATIONAL PEERS

Phoenix, Seattle

CALIFORNIA PEERS

Sacramento, San Francisco, San Jose

NEIGHBORS

Los Angeles, Riverside/San Bernardino, San Diego

Child Abuse and Domestic Violence Reports Decline

Description of Indicator

This indicator tracks child abuse by measuring confirmed child abuse and neglect reports (substantiated referrals) and the number of children entering foster care. Domestic violence is tracked by measuring domestic-violence calls for assistance and spousal abuse arrests.

Why is it Important?

Foster care placement is often the final act to protect children from abuse and neglect after repeated attempts to stabilize their families have failed. Domestic violence threatens the physical and emotional wellbeing of children and women in particular, and can have lasting negative impacts. It can also lead to homelessness when the abused flees a dangerous environment.

How is Orange County Doing?

Recent data show a decrease in the number of child abuse and neglect reports:

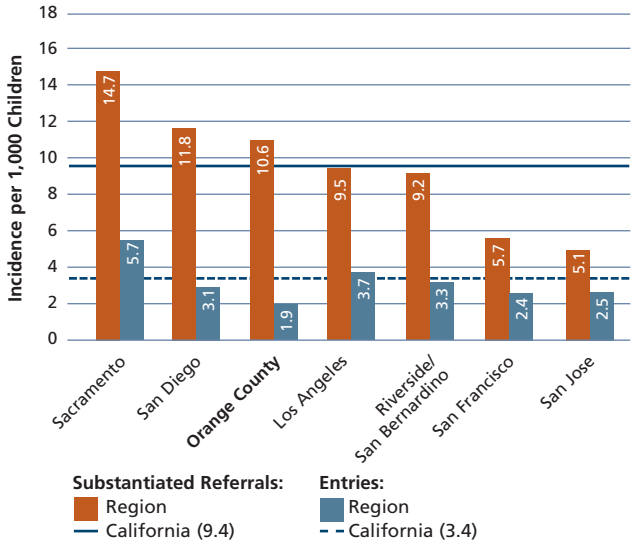
- In 2008, Orange County had more substantiated child abuse and neglect referrals per 1,000 children than the statewide average, yet a 14% decrease over 2007 levels.
- The number of children entering foster care fell 15% from 2007 to 2008.
- The 10-year trends for referrals and entries remain downward.
- Orange County has the lowest rate of children entering foster care among California peers (1.9 per 1,000 children).
- When possible, the Orange County Social Services Agency aims to keep families intact while providing stabilizing services. This may account for the fact that only approximately 18% of substantiated referrals in Orange County result in foster care placement, compared to rates between 27% and 48% in peer regions.

Spousal abuse arrests decline:

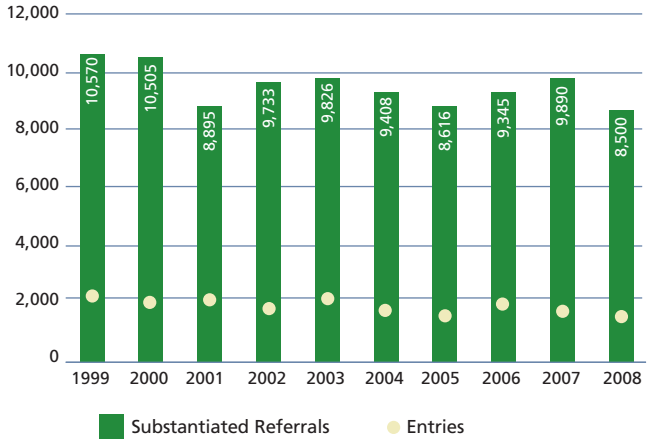
- In 2008, there were 10,219 domestic violence-related calls for assistance, down 4% from 2007.
- There were 2,121 spousal abuse arrests in 2008, down 9% from 2007.
- Orange County continues to have significantly lower levels of calls for assistance and spousal abuse arrests than the statewide averages.

Note: Domestic violence-related calls for assistance per 100,000 are calculated using the total population. Spousal abuse arrests per 100,000 are calculated using the total population at risk, 10-69 years of age.

Substantiated Referrals and Entries to Foster Care
Regional Comparison, 2008

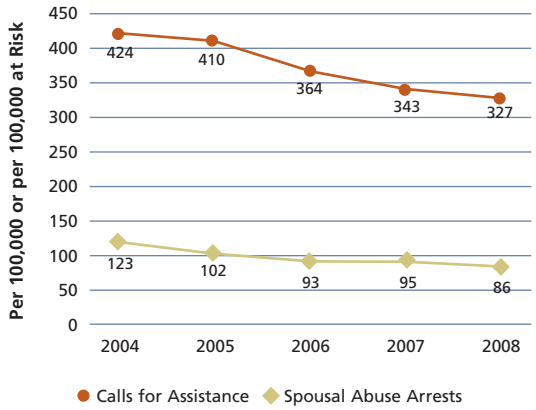


Substantiated Referrals and Entries to Foster Care
Orange County, 1999-2008



Source: University of California Berkeley, Center for Social Services Research, Child Welfare Research Center (http://cssr.berkeley.edu/ucb_childwelfare/default.aspx)

Domestic Violence-Related Calls for Assistance and Spousal Abuse Arrests
Orange County, 2004-2008



Source: California Department of Justice, Criminal Justice Statistics Center, Special Requests Unit

Following Two Years of Increases, Juvenile Crime Down

Description of Indicator

This indicator uses arrests as a means of measuring juveniles' (persons under 18 years of age) participation in felony and misdemeanor crimes, compared to adults and peer regions. Felonies include crimes such as murder, assault, rape, robbery, burglary, and serious drug offenses. Misdemeanors include crimes such as assault and battery, prostitution, petty theft, vandalism, driving while intoxicated, and less serious drug offenses.

Why is it Important?

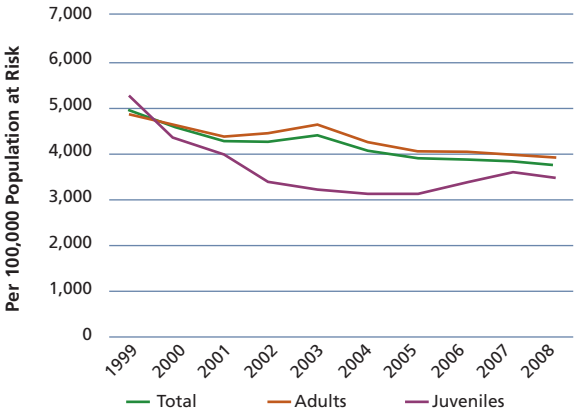
Tracking juvenile arrests helps the community understand the level of major and minor crime in Orange County and the extent to which youth contribute to that crime. While youths make up a small portion of overall arrests, criminal justice experts argue that intervening early with at-risk youth can help reduce criminal activity in their adult lives.

How is Orange County Doing?

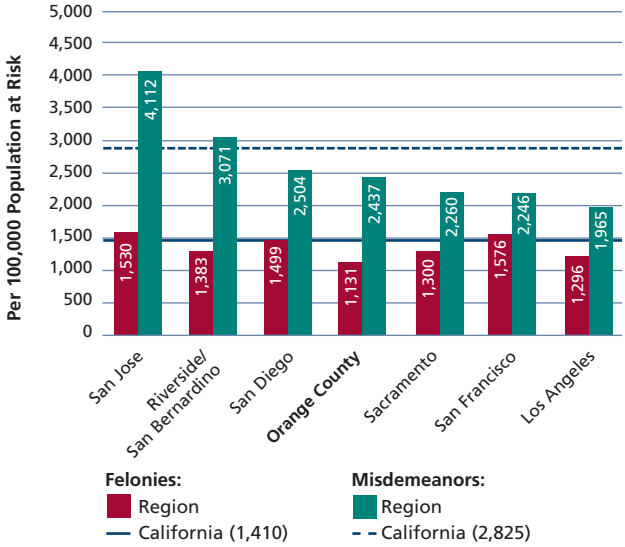
After two years of increases, juvenile crime fell slightly:

- In 2008, the juvenile felony arrest rate rose 1%, compared to 10% in 2007, while misdemeanor arrests dropped 2% for a total change of -1%.
- Juveniles made up 13% of all arrests in 2008.
- Out of the 12,911 juvenile arrests, 68% were for misdemeanors.
- In 2008, Orange County had the lowest juvenile felony arrest rate among peers, and the fourth highest juvenile misdemeanor arrest rate.

Adult and Juvenile Felony and Misdemeanor Arrests
Orange County, 1999-2008



Juvenile Felony and Misdemeanor Arrests
Regional Comparison, 2008



Note: The juvenile population at risk is 10-17 years of age, the adult population at risk is 18-69 years of age, and the total population at risk is 10-69 years of age.

School Crime

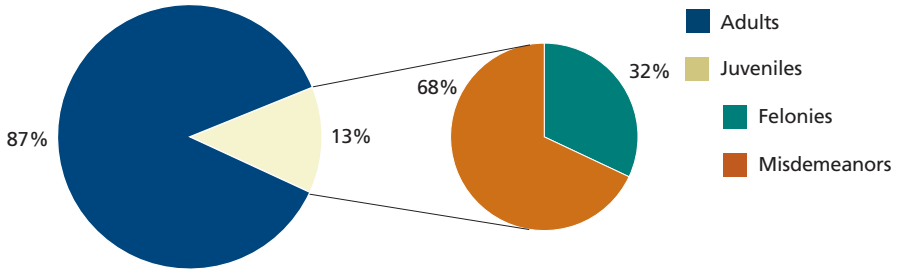
Students are expelled from school for violent or dangerous behavior, or for committing drug or firearm offenses on school grounds. Compared to the state, Orange County has a lower rate of expulsions.

Expulsions per 1,000 Students Enrolled
Orange County & California, 2006-2008

	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08
Orange County	**2.0**	**1.7**	**2.2**
California	5.2	2.8	2.7

Source: California Department of Education, DataQuest (http://data1.cde.ca.gov/Dataquest/)

Total Adult and Juvenile Arrests and Proportion of Juvenile Arrests that are Felonies or Misdemeanors
Orange County, 2008



Source: California Department of Justice, Criminal Justice Statistics Center (http://caag.state.ca.us/cjsc/)

Crime Rate Continues to Fall

Description of Indicator

This indicator uses FBI Uniform Crime Reports to compare crime rates among regions and to track crime rate trends. This analysis includes violent felonies (homicide, forcible rape, robbery, and aggravated assault) and property felonies (burglary, motor vehicle theft, and larceny-theft). The number of homicide victims by race or ethnicity is also shown.

Why is it Important?

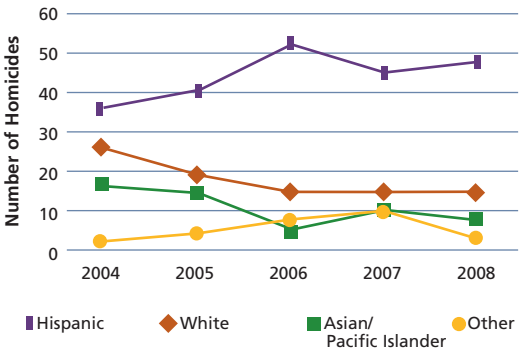
Crime impacts both real and perceived safety in a community. It can also negatively affect investment in a community if a neighborhood is considered unsafe.

How is Orange County Doing?

Orange County's crime rate continues to fall:

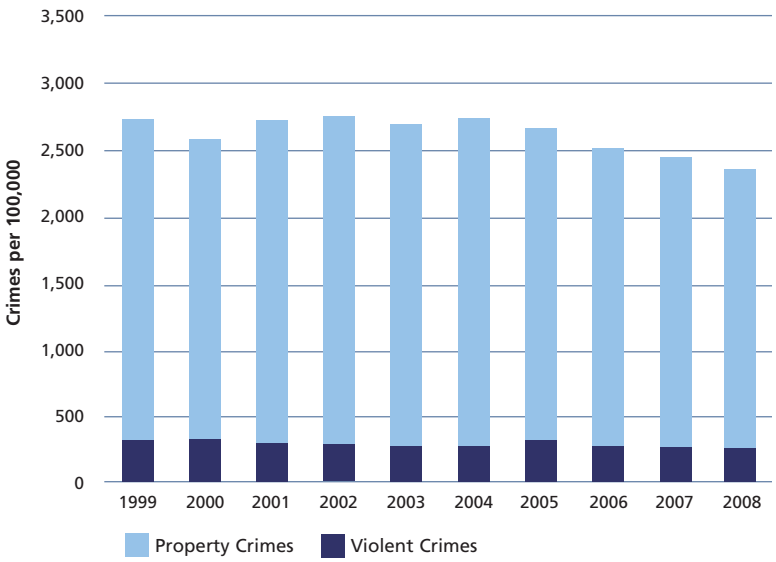
- Between 2007 and 2008, Orange County's crime rate fell 3%.
- Over the past 10 years, reported crime in Orange County dropped 14%, or an average of 1.6% each year.
- Compared to peers, Orange County has the lowest overall crime rate.
- Of the 72 homicides in Orange County in 2008, 65% of the victims were Latino, compared to 18% White, and 13% Asian/Pacific Islander.
- Based on Orange County's overall racial and ethnic composition, Hispanic residents are disproportionately more affected by homicides than White and Asian/Pacific Islander residents.

Victims of Homicides by Race/Ethnicity
Orange County, 2004-2008



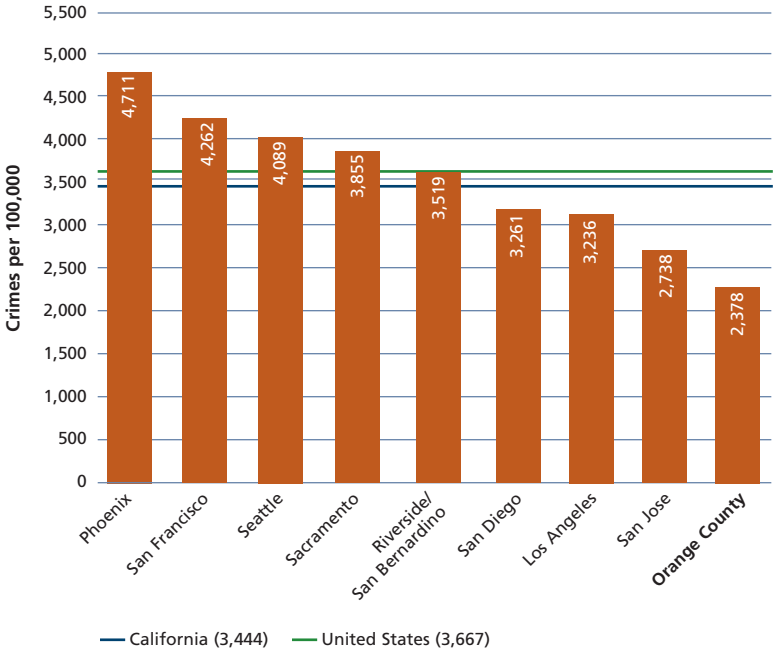
Source: California Department of Justice, Office of the Attorney General, Criminal Justice Statistics Center, Special Request Unit

Crime Rate
Orange County, 1999-2008



Source: Federal Bureau of Investigation, Uniform Crime Reporting Program (www.fbi.gov/ucr/ucr.htm)

Crime Rate
Regional Comparison, 2008



Source: Federal Bureau of Investigation, Uniform Crime Reporting Program (www.fbi.gov/ucr/ucr.htm)

Gang-Related Felony Filings Highest This Decade

Description of Indicator

This indicator measures gang-related crime filings, homicides, and the percentage of countywide filings that are gang-related. Also measured are the numbers of identified gang members and identified gangs in Orange County.

Why is it Important?

Tracking gang-related crime can help the community gauge the extent and nature of gang participation in crime. It can also aid policymakers in decisions regarding the effectiveness of programs designed to combat gang-related crime and the level of funding needed to support these programs now and in the future.

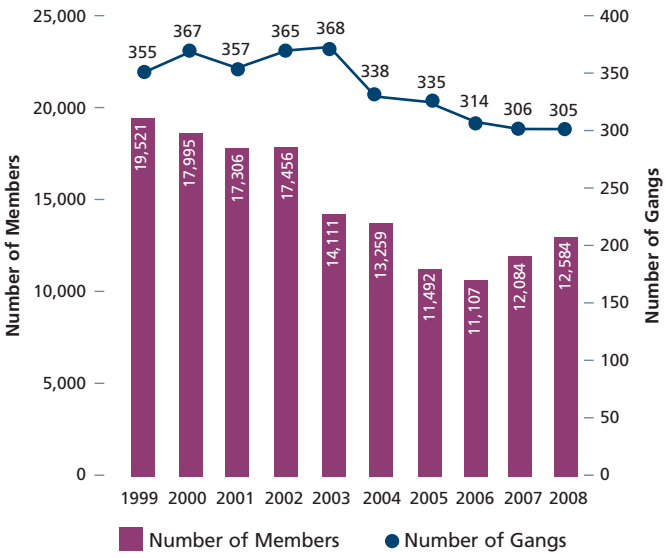
How is Orange County Doing?

Gang-related crime accounts for an increasing proportion of all serious crime:

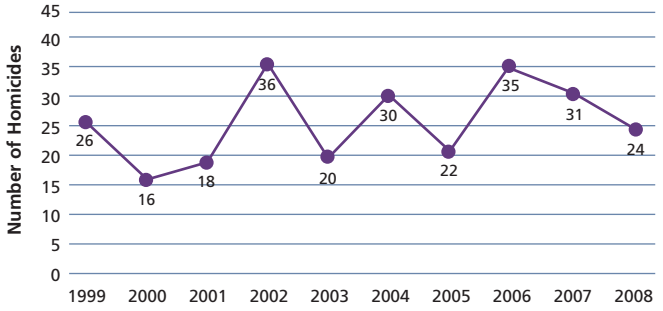
- In 2008, 9.5% of all felony filings in Orange County were gang-related – the highest proportion this decade.[1]
- Anti-gang unit and gang-related misdemeanor and felony filings reached the second highest number this decade at 2,069.
- The number of gangs continues to fall, but the number of gang members rose for the second consecutive year.
- Gang-related homicides fell from 31 in 2007 to 24 in 2008, dropping below the 10-year average of 26.
- Gang members were responsible for 46% of countywide felony weapons charges, 44% of felony homicide/manslaughter filings, and 23% of all felony robbery charges in 2008.

Gang Membership
Using a detailed set of criteria, law enforcement agencies submit information on gang members to a statewide law enforcement database. Gang members are removed from the state database if they have not had contact with law enforcement in the last five years.

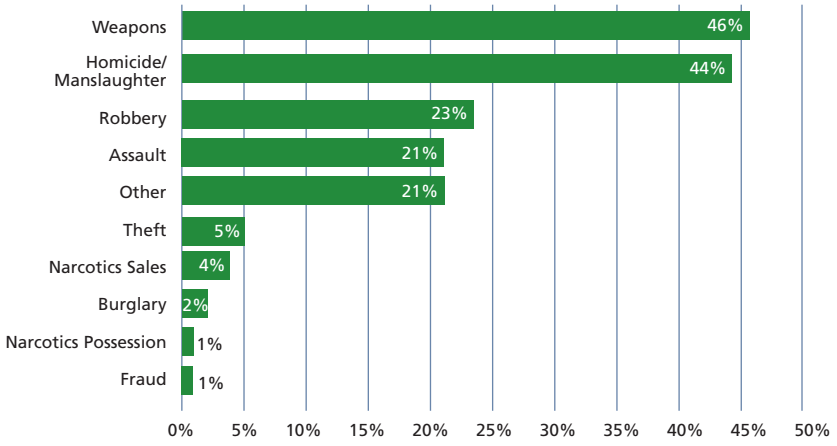
Gangs and Gang Membership
Orange County, 1999-2008



Victims of Gang-Related Homicides
Orange County, 1999-2008



Anti-Gang Unit and Gang-Related Felony Filings as a Percentage of all District Attorney Filings, by Offense
Orange County, 2008



Source: County of Orange Office of the District Attorney

[1] A filing is a charging document filed with the superior court clerk by a prosecuting attorney alleging that a person committed or attempted to commit a crime.

Hate Crime Remains Below 10-Year Average

Description of Indicator

This indicator measures the number of reported hate crime incidents in Orange County compared to peer regions and the number of hate crime-related cases filed in Orange County court. When bias against another person's race, religion, disability, sexual orientation or ethnicity drives a criminal act, the offense is classified as a hate crime.

Why is it Important?

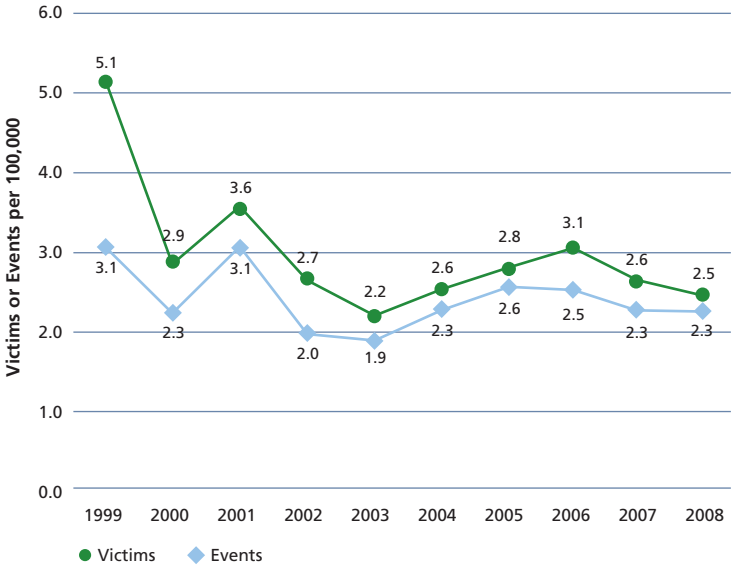
Hate crimes are particularly threatening crimes because the perpetrator views his or her victim as lacking full human worth due to their skin color, ethnic background, religion, sexual orientation, or disability. In addition, a hate crime impacts the entire group to which the victim belongs, spreading concern throughout the community.

How is Orange County Doing?

There was little change in Orange County's already low level of bias-motivated crimes:

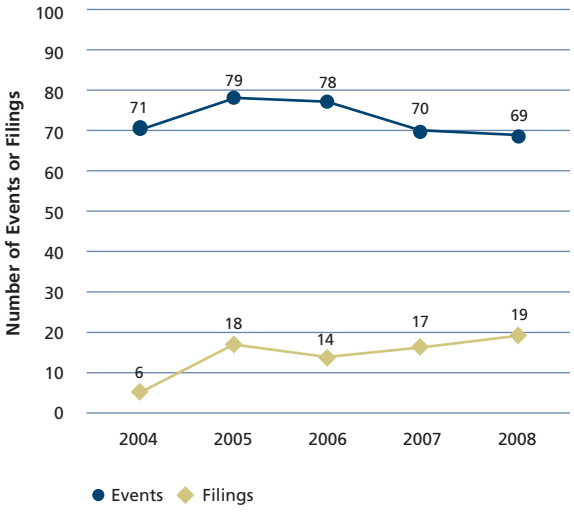
- In 2008, the number of hate crime events (69) and victims (76) remained below the 10-year averages of 73 and 90 respectively.
- The number of hate crime-related cases filed in criminal court rose slightly with 19 in 2008, compared to 17 in 2007.[1]
- Orange County's hate crime event rate of 2.3 per 100,000 is lower than the statewide average and all regions compared.
- Statewide, the most frequent bias motivation in 2008 was race, ethnicity or national origin (57%), followed by religion (21%), and sexual orientation (20%).

Reported Hate Crime Events and Victims
Orange County, 1999-2008

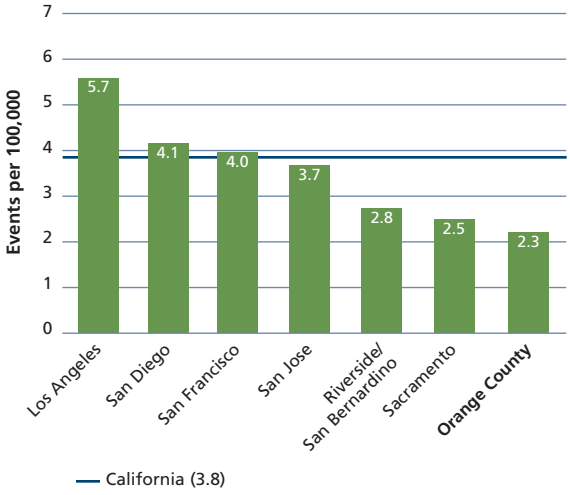


Source: California Department of Justice, Criminal Justice Statistics Center, Hate Crime in California Reports (http://caag.state.ca.us/cjsc/)

Reported Hate Crime Events and Filings
Orange County, 2004-2008



Reported Hate Crime Events
Regional Comparison, 2008



[1] A filing is a charging document filed with the superior court clerk by a prosecuting attorney alleging that a person committed or attempted to commit a crime.

Environment

Air quality remains good, with less than 1% of days considered "unhealthy." Despite drought conditions, per capita water consumption is down, as are sewage spills, and solid waste disposal. Nearly all Orange County jurisdictions met their waste diversion targets. And residents are doing better every year separating hazardous waste from other household waste.

NATIONAL PEERS

Boston, Minneapolis, Phoenix, Seattle

CALIFORNIA PEERS

Oakland, Sacramento, San Francisco, San Jose

NEIGHBORS

Los Angeles, Riverside/San Bernardino, San Diego

Sewage Spills Continue Downward Trend

Description of Indicator

This indicator measures coastal water quality by tracking when ocean and bay waters are closed to the public (closures) or warning signs have been posted (postings) due to a sewage spill or other contamination. Closures and postings are shown by Beach Mile Days, which is calculated by multiplying the number of days of closure or posting by the number of miles of beach closed or posted. This measurement takes into account both the length of time and amount of beach that is unavailable for recreational use due to a closure or posting. For additional information, visit www.ocbeachinfo.com.

Why is it Important?

When ocean or bay waters are closed to the public or warnings are posted on beaches that indicate the water quality is poor, tourists and local residents are discouraged from visiting Orange County's beaches. This results in less consumer traffic in the beach communities and diminishes our overall sense of quality of life. Furthermore, pollutants that enter the ocean or bays through urban runoff and sewage spills have the potential to compromise public health and endanger marine life.

How is Orange County Doing?

Closures increased, while postings reached the lowest levels on record:

- In 2008, there were 30 Beach Mile Days of closures – up substantially from 2007 in which there were two Beach Mile Days of closures.
- Causes of the closures included multiple occurrences of pipeline blockages (11), pump station failures (3), pipeline breaks (2), treatment plant discharges (1), and vessel pump station failures (1).
- The number of Beach Mile Days of postings fell from 434 in 2007 to 377 in 2008.

Sewage spills decreased for the sixth straight year:

- In 2008, there were 266 sewage spills, continuing the downward trend that began in 2003.
- The average annual number of spills in the late-1980s was 68, compared to 137 in the 1990s and 353 in the 2000s.
- The increases since the 1980s are attributed to an aging infrastructure, need for increased maintenance, and more diligent reporting by sanitation district or city staff.

Closures
By state law, recreational ocean or bay waters must be closed when they have been directly contaminated by sewage or when the streams, creeks and rivers that discharge into them have been contaminated by sewage.

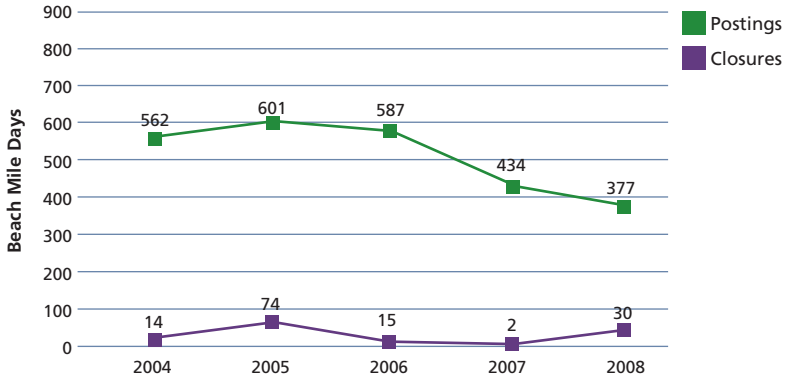
Postings
The Orange County Health Care Agency is required to post warning signs when water quality exceeds state bacteriological standards. This poor water quality is largely attributed to urban runoff.

Sewage Spills
Sewage spills occur when wastewater in underground pipes overflows through a manhole, cleanout or broken pipe.

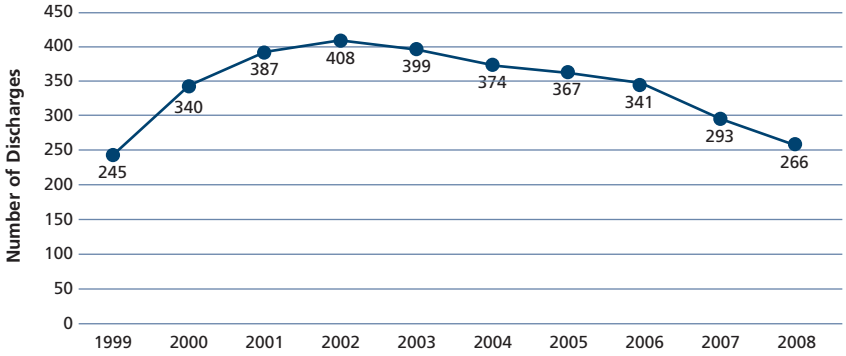
Pipeline Blockages and Breaks
Grease build-up is the most common cause of pipeline blockages. Pipeline blockages or breaks in sewer pipes are also caused by tree roots in the lines, undersized sewers, and broken or cracked pipes.

Infrastructure Capability
Intense rain can overwhelm certain portions of a sewer system and lead to sewage spills. An aging sewer system in need of maintenance is also at increased risk of blockages and breaks.

Beach Mile Days of Ocean Water Postings and Closures
Orange County, 2004-2008



Unauthorized Sewage Discharges
Orange County, 1999-2008



Note: Unauthorized waste discharges exclude tertiary recycled water discharges.

Source: Orange County Health Care Agency, Public Health Services, Environmental Health

Trail and Bikeway Development Slows

Description of Indicator

This indicator measures acres of parks and beaches managed by the County of Orange, as well as regional riding/hiking trails and Class I bikeway development. An estimate of city park acreage is also provided.

Why is it Important?

Orange County's parks, trails and beaches contribute to a high quality of life. They provide a variety of recreational opportunities and offer relief from the urban environment. They also contribute to public health by providing outdoor areas where children and adults can play, ride horses, bicycle, walk, jog, or hike. As Orange County's population density increases, these resources are likely to become even more valuable to residents.

How is Orange County Doing?

County and city parklands, along with state and federal lands, provide a variety of recreational options for residents:

- In 2009, the County of Orange managed 39,689 acres of regional parkland, historic parks, and beaches.
- This area is equivalent to 12.6 acres of regional parkland per 1,000 residents.
- City parks and local parks within unincorporated areas comprised 7,691 additional acres, which is equivalent to 2.5 acres of local parkland per 1,000 residents.
- In addition to regional and local parklands, the Orange County portion of the Cleveland National Forest provides nearly 55,000 acres of open space.
- Orange County also features 42 miles of coastline.

In 2009, trail and bikeway systems experienced minimal growth:

- As part of Phase 1 of the Santiago Creek Class I Bikeway project, 0.5 miles of Class I bikeways were added.
- To complete the master-planned bikeways system proposed in the Orange County Transportation Authority's Commuter Bikeways Strategic Plan and the County of Orange's Bikeway Plan, an additional 135 more miles of Class I Bikeways need to be built.
- There were no additions to the miles of unpaved riding and hiking trails.
- The County will not reach the stated goal within the County of Orange General Plan to build 80% of the planned riding and hiking trail miles by 2010.
- To reach this goal, the County needed to develop an additional 48 miles of trails.

Bikeway Classes Defined

Class Number	Description
Class I	Off-road, paved
Class II	On-road, striped bike lanes
Class III	On-road, signed but not striped

County of Orange Managed Regional Parks and Beaches, 2009

Regional Parks	Acres
Limestone Canyon and Whiting Ranch Regional Park	9,024
Caspers Regional Park	8,962
Laguna Coast Regional Park	6,590
O'Neill Regional Park	3,965
Aliso and Wood Canyons Regional Park	3,926
Santiago Oaks Regional Park	1,758
Riley Wilderness Park	1,035
Modjeska Regional Park	651
Mile Square Regional Park	607
Irvine Regional Park	474
Peters Canyon Regional Park	369
Featherly Regional Park	364
Mason Regional Park	339
Laguna Niguel Regional Park	228
Talbert Nature Preserve	182
Freemont Canyon	145
Upper Newport Bay Nature Preserve	142
Yorba Regional Park	140
Craig Regional Park	129
Carbon Canyon Regional Park	124
Olinda Regional Park	118
Harriett M. Wieder Regional Park	114
Clark Regional Park	104
Sub-Total	**39,490**

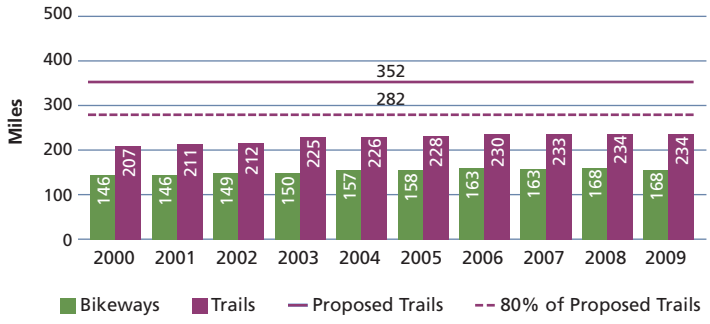
Beaches	Acres
Sunset Beach	48
Salt Creek Beach	47
Aliso Beach	27
North Star Beach	8
Capistrano Beach	7
Bayside Drive Beach	5
Mariner's Beach	4
Thousand Steps Beach	2
Crescent Bay Point Park	1
Poche Beach	1
Table Rock Beach	1
Eleventh Street Beach	0.3
Three Arch Bay Beach	0.3
Toruava Bay Beach	0.2
Sub-Total	**152**

Historic Parks	Acres
Modjeska Home Historical Park	21
Irvine Ranch Historical Park	17
Heritage Hill Historical Park	4
George Key Ranch Historical Site	2
Old Orange County Courthouse	2
Yorba Historical Cemetery	1
Ramon Peralta Adobe	0.2
Sub-Total	**47**
TOTAL	**39,689**

Notes: Acreage counts in this table include easements, leased acres, wilderness and nature preserves that may have restricted access, and acres that have been irrevocably offered (but are not currently owned by the County). The 138 acres of County of Orange managed local parks within unincorporated areas are not included in this count; these acres are included in the city and local park acreage total of 7,691.

Sources: County of Orange Community Resources/Parks; County of Orange Public Works/Geomatics and Land Information Systems; California Department of Finance, Table E-4

Miles of Regional Bikeways and Trails
Orange County, 2000-2009



Source: County of Orange Public Works

Solid Waste Disposal at 10-Year Low

Description of Indicator

This indicator measures the tons of commercial and residential solid waste deposited in Orange County landfills and provides a regional comparison of jurisdictions meeting state-defined waste diversion targets. It also measures the pounds of household hazardous waste collected (such as oil, paint, batteries, cell phones, computers, and monitors) and the number of annual participants.

Why is it Important?

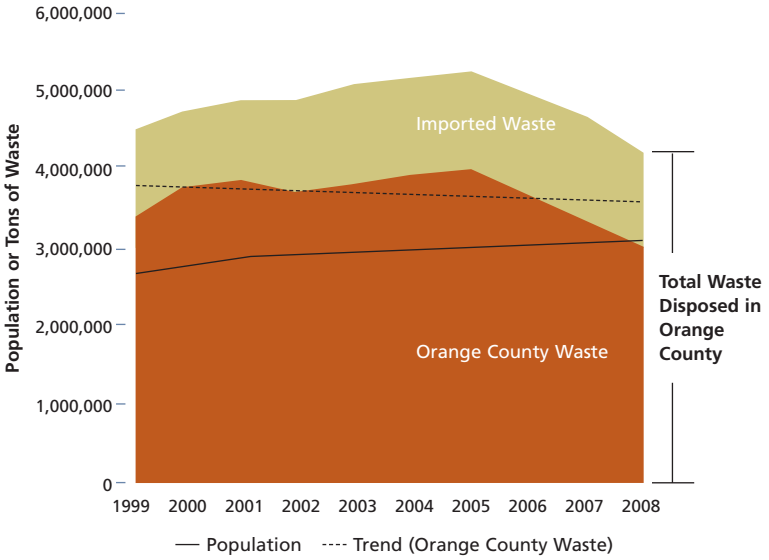
Reducing solid waste production and diverting recyclables and green waste extends the life of landfills, decreases the need for costly alternatives, and reduces environmental impact. Collection of household hazardous waste helps protect the environment and public health by reducing illegal and improper disposal.

How is Orange County Doing?

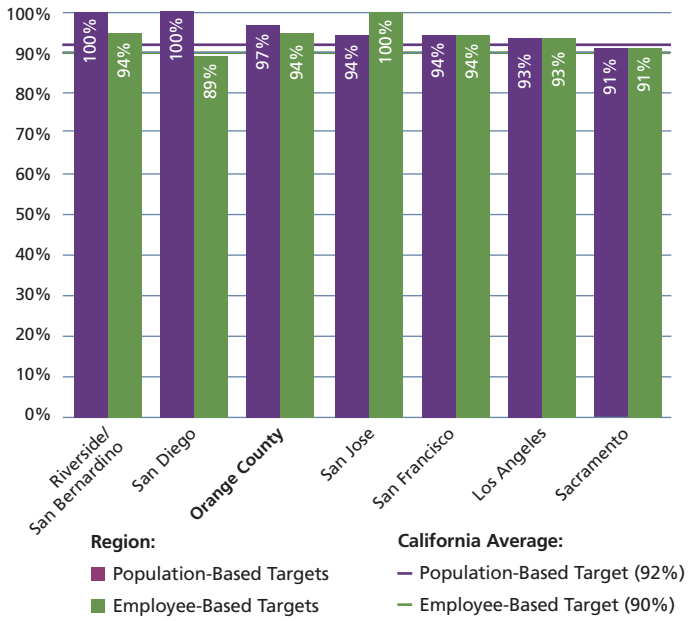
Orange County's waste collection trends are positive:

- Waste disposed in landfills dropped for the third year in a row, reaching the lowest level in a decade.
- Recent reductions in solid waste disposal have shifted the 10-year trend in the amount disposed by Orange County residents to an average of -1% annually. This is in contrast to the county's population growth rate of 1.3% annually.
- 97% of Orange County jurisdictions met their population-based waste diversion targets, while 94% met their employment-based targets. Both rates exceed the California average.[1]
- In 2008/09, more residents brought household hazardous waste to regional collection centers, however the number of overall pounds disposed fell.
- This drop is primarily driven by economic factors, with collections peaking in 2007/08.

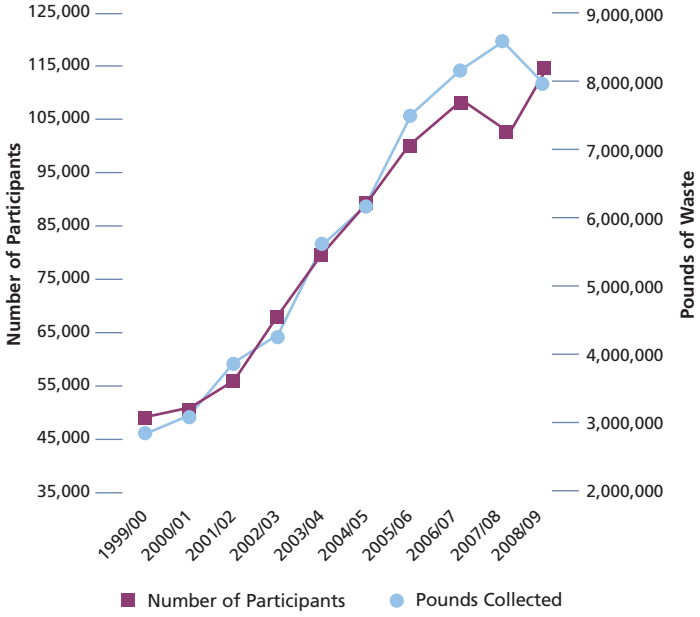
Solid Waste Disposal in Orange County Landfills Compared to Population Growth, 1999-2008



Population- and/or Employment-Based Waste Diversion Targets
Regional Comparison, 2008



Household Hazardous Waste
Orange County, 2000-2009



Sources: County of Orange Integrated Waste Management Department; California Integrated Waste Management Board (www.ciwmb.ca.gov/); California Department of Finance, Tables E-4 (www.dof.ca.gov)

[1] California law requires each jurisdiction to reduce the amount of waste it sends to landfills by approximately 50%. Annually, the California Integrated Waste Management Board calculates a jurisdiction's per capita (per resident and per employee) disposal rates and bases reduction targets on these calculations. While the 50% diversion requirement has not changed, the method used to calculate compliance was modified beginning in 2007. For this reason, figures from 2007 onward are not comparable to prior figures.

More Days of "Good" Air in Recent Years

Description of Indicator

This indicator measures air quality, including specific pollutants, using the Air Quality Index (AQI).

Why is it Important?

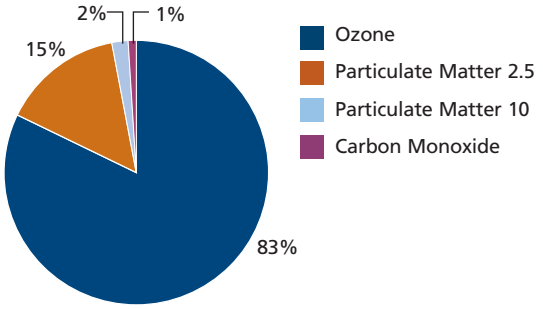
Long-term exposure to air pollution increases risks for many health conditions including lung cancer and cardiovascular disease. Children with severe asthma can start suffering symptoms when air quality is in the "moderate" range and high levels of airborne particulate matter smaller than 2.5 micrometers (PM 2.5) can have adverse effects on children's lung development.[1]

How is Orange County Doing?

In 2008, Orange County's air quality remained in the mid-range compared to peers:

- 69% of days were in the "good" range – a modest improvement over the 67% of "good" days in 2007 and 63% in 2006.
- 24% of days were in the "moderate" range, while 6% were considered "unhealthy for sensitive groups."
- Less than 1% of days were in the "unhealthy" range.
- Ozone was the main pollutant, followed by PM 2.5.
- Orange County exceeded the national air quality standards for 8-hour ozone on 25 occasions and 24-hour PM 2.5 on one occasion.
- Among peers compared, Orange County ranked fifth on the AQI, with Seattle experiencing the best air quality and Phoenix experiencing the worst.

Percent of Days in 2008 when the Main Pollutant in Orange County was...



Note: A daily index value is calculated for each air pollutant measured. The highest of those index values is the AQI value for that day, and the pollutant responsible for the highest index value is called the "main pollutant." There were no days in 2008 when the main pollutant was sulfur dioxide or nitrogen dioxide.

Source: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, AirData (www.epa.gov/air/data/index.html)

Unlike previous years, the number of days for which air quality data was collected in 2008 and submitted to the EPA database varied for Orange County and all peer regions compared. As a result, and in order to maintain regional comparability, air quality data in the 2010 Community Indicators report is shown in "percents of days" rather than "number of days." In Orange County in 2008, there were 249 days for which data was submitted to the EPA database.

[1] *Journal of the American Medical Association*, October 8, 2003; *New England Journal of Medicine*, September 9, 2004.

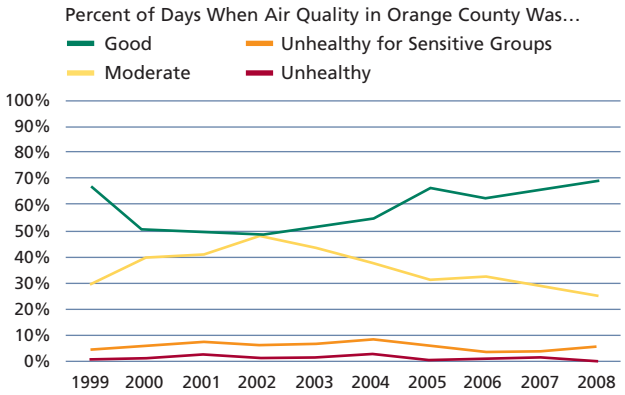
Air Quality Index

The Air Quality Index is calculated for ground-level ozone, particulate matter, carbon monoxide, sulfur dioxide, and nitrogen dioxide. The number 100 corresponds to the national air quality standard for the pollutant.

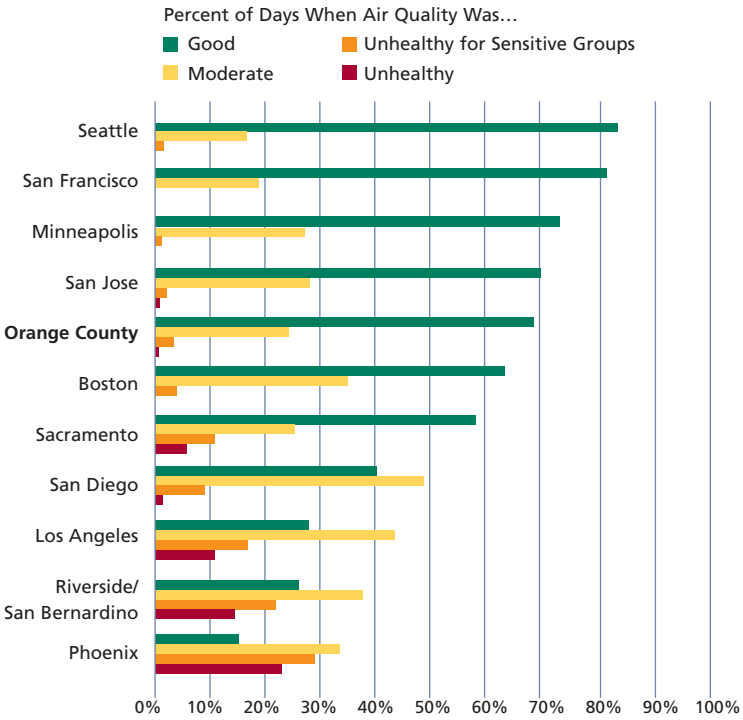
AQI Values	Health Categories
0 - 50	Good
51 - 100	Moderate
101 - 150	Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups
151 - 200	Unhealthy
201 - 300	Very Unhealthy
301 - 500	Hazardous

Source: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (http://airnow.gov/)

Air Quality Index
Orange County, 1999-2008



Air Quality Index
Regional Comparison, 2008



Source: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, AirData (www.epa.gov/air/data/index.html)

Water Consumption Declines

Description of Indicator

This indicator measures Orange County's annual urban (residential and commercial) water usage. It also shows projected water use and supply through 2030.

Why is it Important?

Given our arid climate, effective water management is essential to ensure that Orange County has an ample water supply now and in the future. As population and business growth drive water demand, reliance on imported water will continue. The county's long-term sustainability will also rely on increased conservation and investment in additional water supplies, such as groundwater basin replenishment and desalination.

How is Orange County Doing?

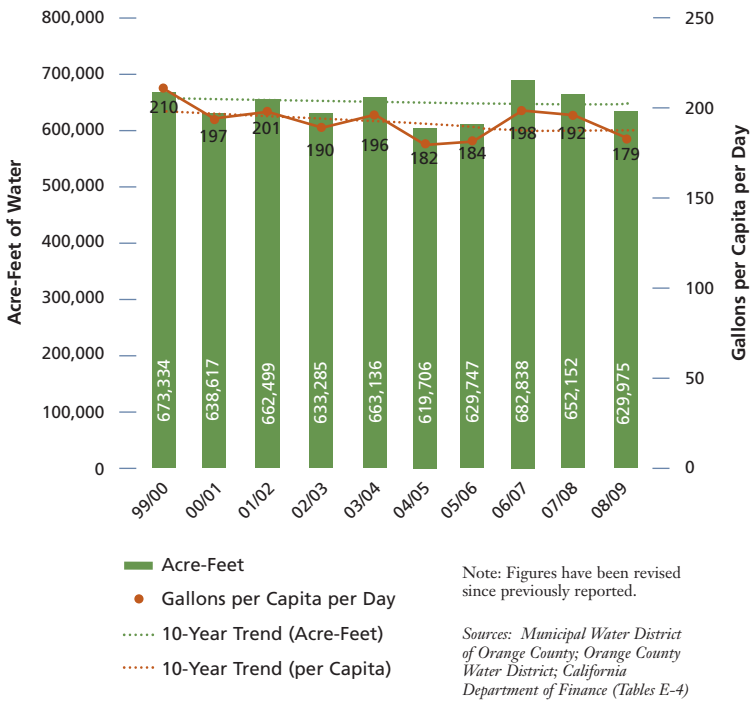
Urban water use fell in 2008/09:

- Between 2007/08 and 2008/09, per capita usage fell 7%, while total acre-feet usage fell 3%.
- Long-term trends show per capita usage rates continuing downward by approximately 1% annually, and overall acre-feet usage remaining flat in spite of population growth.
- To meet future water demand, conservation efforts are increasingly important.
- Desalination remains the most costly source of water, though it will become more financially viable as imported water rates increase.
- Between 2008 and 2009, the cost of imported water increased 13%.[1]

Drought Impacts

Following dry years in 2007 and 2008, California's precipitation remained well below average at the close of 2009. As a result, the California Department of Water Resources rated drought conditions as "severe" on its four-level scale of "normal," "dry," "severe" and "extreme." Additionally, the state recently passed a water conservation bill aiming to reduce the overall urban per capita water use by one-fifth by 2020. And farmers in the Central Valley left about 500,000 acres unplanted this past year, impacting the state's agricultural industry and economy. Locally, most Orange County cities and water districts have implemented comprehensive water restrictions, and water rates have increased on average by 25% - 40%. Although above average rainfall in early 2010 helped relieve some of the short-term drought-related pressures, the long-term outlook suggests continued supply challenges. Supplies in northern California and the Colorado River basin have not been replenished, and restrictions in northern California to protect endangered species will continue to result in reduced water deliveries to southern California by as much as 50%.

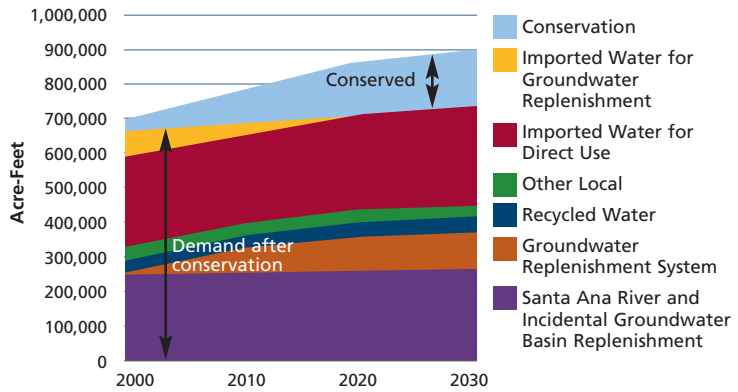
Urban Water Usage
Orange County, 2000-2009



Note: Figures have been revised since previously reported.

Sources: Municipal Water District of Orange County; Orange County Water District; California Department of Finance (Tables E-4)

Water Use and Supply Projection by Source
Orange County, 2000-2030



Notes: Projection estimates have been revised since previously reported. Reclaimed water generated by the Groundwater Replenishment System goes to replenish the groundwater basin. Recycled Water includes reclaimed water for direct use, as opposed to reclaimed water processed to replenish the groundwater basin.

Sources: Municipal Water District of Orange County and Orange County Water District

[1] Presentation of water source projection data and water cost data alternate annually. Refer to the 2009 Orange County Community Indicators report (page 64) to view water costs by source per acre-foot to wholesalers.

Civic Engagement

While two-thirds of eligible residents went to the polls in the 2008 general election, only one quarter of the eligible population voted in the 2009 special election. More Orange County voters opposed Propositions 1A through 1E than the state average. Nonprofit organizations continue to grow in number, revenues and assets.

NATIONAL PEERS

Austin, Boston, Dallas, Minneapolis, Seattle

CALIFORNIA PEERS

Sacramento, San Francisco, San Jose

NEIGHBORS

Los Angeles, Riverside/San Bernardino, San Diego

Most Eligible Residents are Registered to Vote

Description of Indicator

This indicator measures voter registration and voter turnout. Voter turnout is measured among registered voters and among the voting eligible population.

Why is it Important?

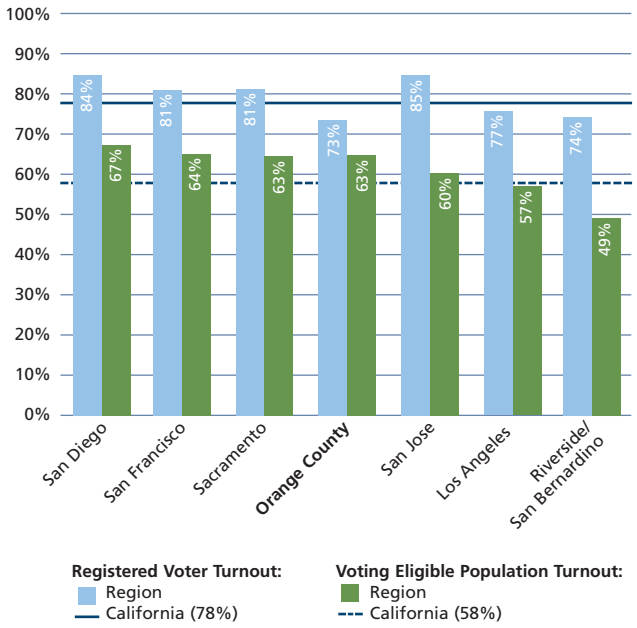
Voter participation measures civic interest and the public's optimism regarding their impact on the decision-making process. A high level of citizen involvement increases personal investment in community issues and government accountability.

How is Orange County Doing?

While turnout varies depending on how it is measured, Orange County maintains high voter registration:

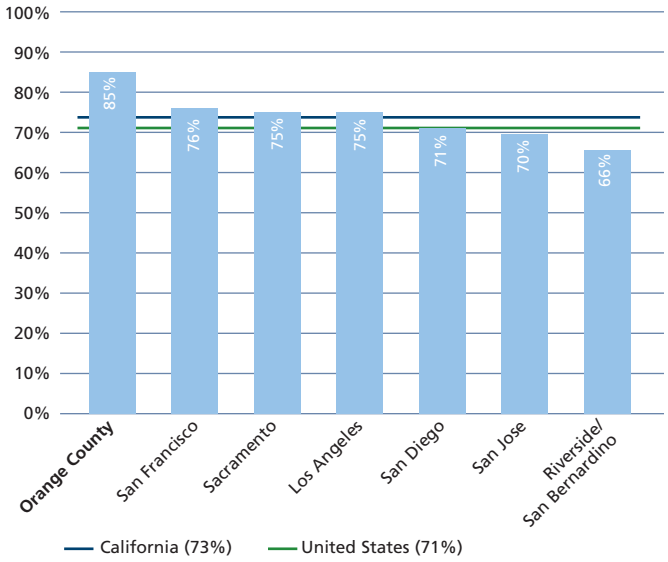
- As of May 2009, 85% of Orange County residents who are eligible to vote were registered.
- This rate is greater than state and national averages, and more than nine percentage points greater than all peers compared.
- Among registered Orange County voters, 73% chose to vote in the 2008 general election.
- This is the same rate of registered voters that turned out in the last two general elections, but fewer than the statewide average and all peers compared.
- In the last general election, 63% of eligible residents voted.
- This participation rate for the voting eligible population is higher than the statewide average and several peer counties.

General Election Turnout Among Registered Voters and Voting Eligible Population
Regional Comparison, 2008



Sources: California Secretary of State, November 2008 Returns (http://vote.sos.ca.gov/Returns/status.htm) and October 20, 2008 Report of Registration (www.sos.ca.gov/elections/ror/ror-pages/15day-presgen-08/ror-102008.htm)

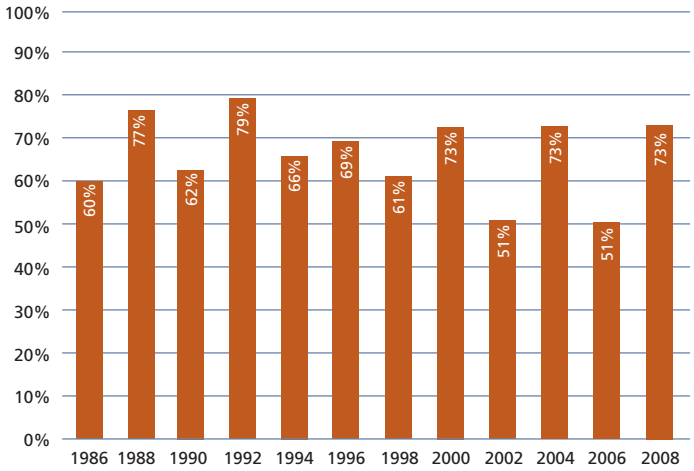
Percentage of Eligible Residents Registered to Vote
Regional Comparison, 2009



Note: Data for United States is registration as of November 2008.

Sources: California Secretary of State (www.sos.ca.gov/elections/ror/ror-pages/15day-stwdsp-09/ror-050409.htm), U.S. Census Bureau (www.census.gov/population/www/socdemo/voting.html)

General Election Turnout Among Registered Voters
Orange County, 1986-2008



Source: California Secretary of State, November 2008 Returns (http://vote.ss.ca.gov/Returns/status.htm)

Registered Voter Turnout
The number of votes cast in any given election divided by the number of residents who are registered to vote.

Voting Eligible Population Turnout
The number of votes cast in any given election divided by the number of all eligible residents (U.S. Citizens 18 years of age or older who are not convicted felons in prison or on parole).

Orange County Majority Oppose Five of Six Propositions

Description of Indicator

In an attempt to resolve the 2009/10 state budget crisis, California voters were asked last May to vote on six propositions in support of a budget agreement developed by the State Legislature and the Governor. This indicator compares the results of the 2009 Special Election for Orange County, peer regions, and California.

Why is it Important?

Voter participation reflects the public's willingness to engage in the civic decision-making process and optimism regarding the ability to impact the outcomes of electoral issues. By comparing the Orange County results of the 2009 Special Election to peer regions and the state of California, voters' relative opinions of state leadership and proposed solutions to the budget crises can be measured. The results may further highlight voters' general attitudes toward government spending, new taxes or tax dollar shifts, as well as more specific views about the particular tax shifts advocated within these propositions.

How is Orange County Doing?

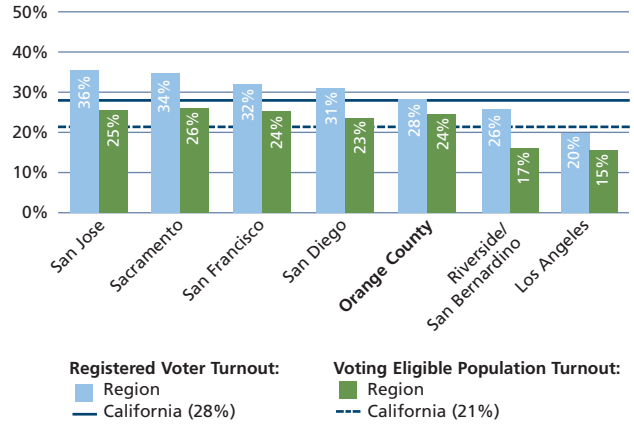
In the 2009 Special Election, approximately the same percentage of registered voters voted in Orange County as in the state:

- Among Orange County residents registered to vote, 28% went to the polls in May 2009. Turnout among the voting eligible population was 24%.[1]
- Five of the six propositions were defeated by Orange County voters, the same as California and all peer regions compared.
- Orange County voters' opposition of Propositions 1A through 1E varied by measure – between 7% and 11% greater than the state.
- Registered voter turnout in Orange County exceeded Riverside/San Bernardino and Los Angeles, but trailed San Diego, San Francisco, Sacramento, and San Jose.

Orange County results by proposition:

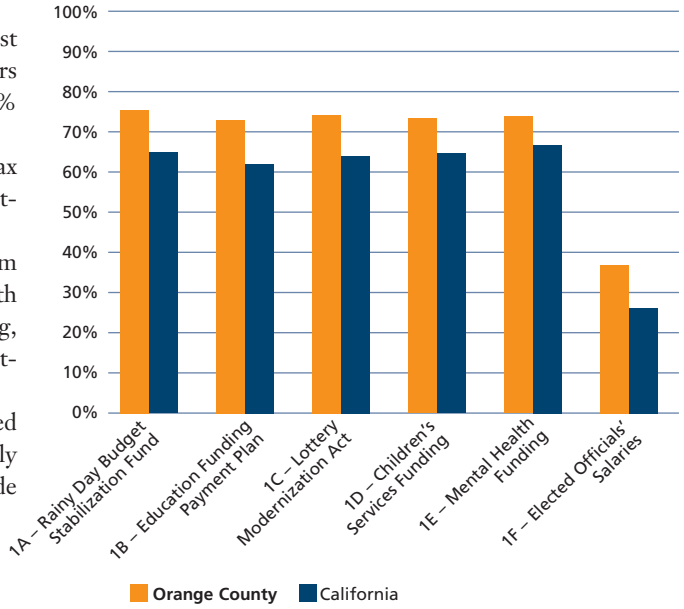
- *Proposition 1A*: Voters were least supportive of this measure to extend the sales tax increase enacted by state government as part of the February 2009 budget deal – with 76.0% opposing the measure compared to 65.4% statewide.
- *Proposition 1B*: Voters also rejected this related measure to reallocate funding for schools and community colleges – with 73.1% in opposition compared to 61.9% statewide.
- *Proposition 1C*: Designed to authorize borrowing money against future state lottery proceeds to balance the state budget, voters rejected this measure with 73.5% voting "no" compared to 63.5% statewide.
- *Proposition 1D*: Voters opposed this measure to redirect tobacco tax revenues from funding children's services to the state budget shortfall by 74.0%, compared to 65.4% statewide.
- *Proposition 1E*: This measure to transfer mental health funds from programs approved under Proposition 63 in 2004 to mental health services provided through the Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis and Treatment Program was rejected by 73.5% of voters, compared to 66.5% statewide.
- *Proposition 1F*: This measure to prevent salary increases for elected officials in years where the state has a budget deficit was the only measure supported by both Orange County (63.0%) and statewide voters (74.3%).

Special Election Turnout Among Registered Voters and Voting Eligible Population[1]
Regional Comparison, 2009



Sources: California Secretary of State, November 2008 Returns (http://vote.sos.ca.gov/Returns/status.htm); October 20, 2008 Report of Registration (www.sos.ca.gov/elections/ror/ror-pages/15day-presgen-08/ror-102008.htm)

Special Election Results, May 2009
Percentage Who Voted "No" by Proposition



Source: California Secretary of State http://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/sov/2009-special/ssov/1-6-summary-by-county.pdf

[1] See Voter Participation for definitions of Registered Voter Turnout and Voting Eligible Population Turnout.

Growth Rate is Strong; Per Capita Measures Lag

Description of Indicator

This indicator assesses Orange County's nonprofit sector by measuring the number of organizations as well as per capita revenues and assets.

Why is it Important?

A well-funded and supported nonprofit sector is an integral part of a healthy and stable community. Nonprofit service organizations help bridge the gap between government programs and local needs, and are a valuable contributor to the economy.

How is Orange County Doing?

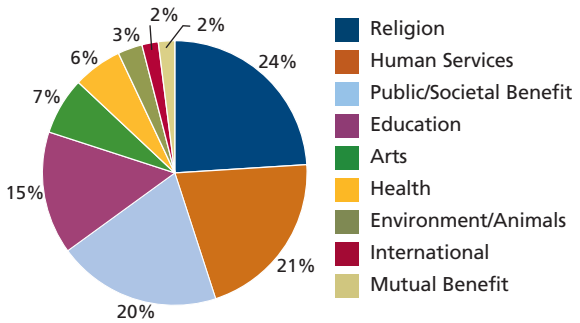
The number of nonprofit organizations in Orange County is steadily increasing:

- In 2009, there were 11,943 registered nonprofit organizations in Orange County, up from 11,500 in 2008.
- This rate of increase is similar to several metro areas across the United States.
- Since 2000, the number of Orange County nonprofit organizations increased by 55.8%, a rate second only to Dallas (61.7%) among peers compared.
- Religious organizations comprise the highest percentage of nonprofits at 28%, followed by Human Services (21%) and Public/Societal Benefit (20%).

Orange County has fewer nonprofit organizations per capita than comparison regions:

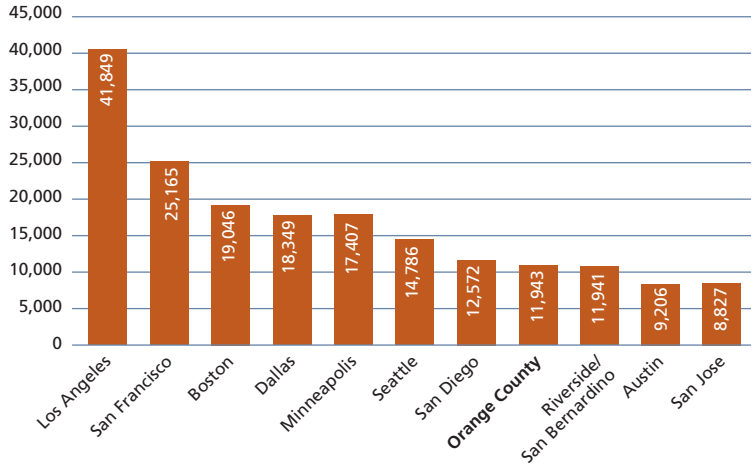
- Orange County has 3.98 nonprofit organizations per thousand residents, which is lower than all regions compared except Riverside/San Bernardino.
- In 2009, Orange County also lagged behind all peers compared except Riverside/San Bernardino in per capita revenues ($3,271) and assets ($7,157).
- Reversing a decline in 2008, annual nonprofit revenues increased 11.4% to $9.8 billion in 2009.
- Since 2000, both annual revenues and assets have increased by approximately 8% per year.

Nonprofits by Category
Orange County, 2009

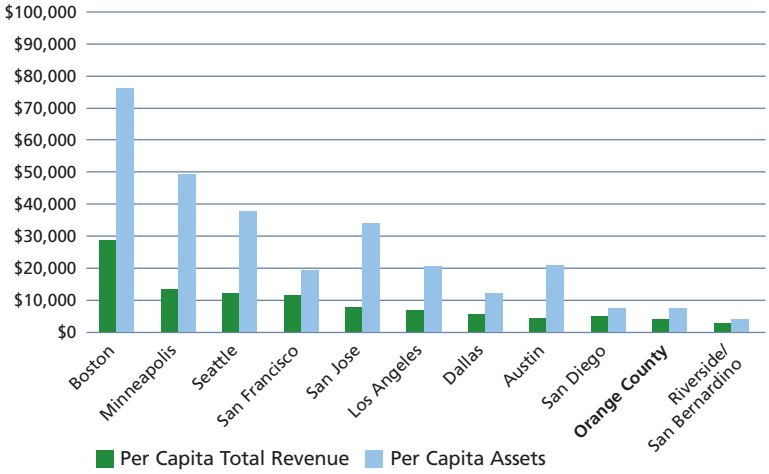


Source: National Center for Charitable Statistics (http://nccs.urban.org/statistics/index.cfm)

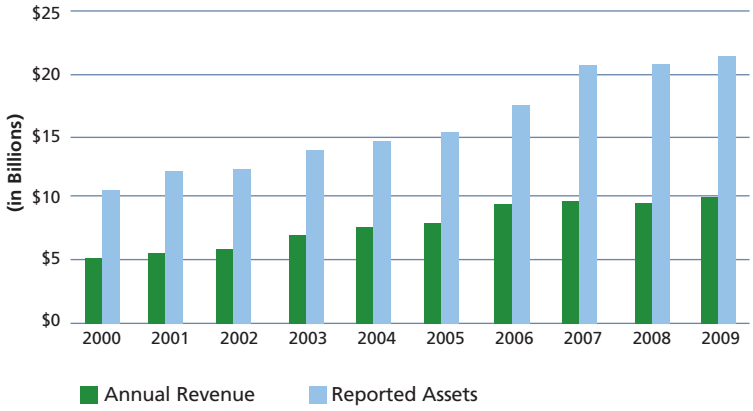
Number of Registered Nonprofit Organizations
Regional Comparison, 2009



Per Capita Total Revenue and Assets
Regional Comparison, 2009



Nonprofit Revenue and Asset Growth
Orange County, 2000-2009



Source: National Center for Charitable Statistics (http://nccs.urban.org/statistics/index.cfm)

The Community Indicators report would not be possible without the data provided by the following agencies and the expertise of their representatives:

15th Annual Report on the Conditions of Children in Orange County

Anaheim Public Utilities

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California Department of Education

California Department of Finance

California Department of Justice, Criminal Justice Statistics Center

California Department of Mental Health

California Department of Public Health

California Division of Tourism

California Employment Development Department

California Highway Patrol

California Integrated Waste Management Department

California Managed Risk Medical Insurance Board

California Public Utilities Commission

California Secretary of State

California Solar Initiative

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Center for Economic and Environmental Studies at California State University, Fullerton

Central County Regional Occupational Program

Chapman University

Children and Families Commission of Orange County

Children's Home Society of Orange County

Coastline Regional Occupational Program

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County of Orange Community Services/Office on Aging

County of Orange Community Services/Orange County Housing Authority

County of Orange County Executive Office

County of Orange Health Care Agency/Behavioral Health Services

County of Orange Health Care Agency/Environmental Health

County of Orange Health Care Agency/Epidemiology and Assessment

County of Orange Health Care Agency/Family Health Division

County of Orange Health Care Agency/HIV/AIDS Surveillance & Monitoring Program

County of Orange Integrated Waste Management Department

County of Orange Office of the District Attorney

County of Orange Public Works/Geomatics and Land Information Systems

County of Orange Public Works

County of Orange Social Services Agency

Federal Bureau of Investigation

Federal Transit Administration

Forbes magazine

Hanley Wood Market Intelligence

La Jolla Institute

Milken Institute

Municipal Water District of Orange County

National Center for Charitable Statistics

National Low Income Housing Coalition

Next 10

North Orange County Regional Occupational Program

Orange County Business Council

Orange County Department of Education/Division of School and Community Services

Orange County Transportation Authority

Orange County Water District

PricewaterhouseCoopers/Thomson Venture Reuters/NVCA Moneytree

San Diego Gas & Electric

Scarborough Research

Southern California Edison

United States Bureau of Economic Analysis

United States Bureau of Labor Statistics

United States Census Bureau

United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention/National Center for Health Statistics

United States Conference of Mayors

United States Department of Commerce, International Trade Administration

United States Department of Health and Human Services

United States Department of Housing and Urban Development

United States Energy Information Administration

United States Environmental Protection Agency

United States Patent Office

United States Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration

United Way of Orange County

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University of California, Irvine

University of California, Los Angeles/Center for Health Policy Research

WestEd

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