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Unless otherwise noted, figures in the charts refer to San Mateo County.

INTRODUCTION

It has been a full year since Sustainable San Mateo County (SSMC) published its first *Indicators* report. Since then, local recognition of the importance of sustainability increased. In the past year, the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG), has been working with the county's coastal cities to initiate the Coastside Planning Project, an effort to incorporate ideas of sustainability into future development along the coast. Additionally, the City of Pacifica included sustainability concepts in its new economic development plan and the environmental impact report that accompanies Menlo Park's general plan, embraces the idea of sustainability. Meanwhile, SSMC compiled research for its second *Indicators* report.

By comparing the new information to the "baseline" information from the 1997 *Indicators* report, readers are able to better determine whether San Mateo County is moving toward sustainability. Since there is no universally defined "state of sustainability," the degree of movement toward or away from sustainability is largely left up to the reader.

What does this report show?

The report records collected bits of information, which taken together are like a photo album of the quality of life in San Mateo County, illustrated through the use of 31 indicators.

The 1998 *Indicators* report is the first "marker" beyond the "baseline" established in the 1997 *Indicators* report. It tries to answer the same questions as the 1997 edition, but with updated information. Some of the indicators have been expanded and provide even more information. This report does not document efforts planned or underway to address current or future problems.

SSMC has stayed with the same format as the 1997 *Indicators* report, presenting "what was measured?" "why is it important?" "what was found?" and "what is the trend?" In most cases, the "why is it important?" sections were not changed from last year as their importance remains the same. SSMC thanks the authors of those sections.

What is new?

As requested by users of the 1997 *Indicators* report, this report contains more city-specific information, showing how the different cities in San Mateo County compare with each other.

Due to the importance of the Housing Affordability, Transportation, and Per Pupil Spending indicators, additional information under those headings appears in the Appendices, located in the back of this report.

SSMC has added a new indicator to the report—the Solid Waste Indicator—which looks at the disposal and diversion of solid waste in the county.

Why is this report important?

It is important to view our county's problems as being interconnected. Understanding the inter-relatedness among issues is easier when you have the entire picture in mind. This is the only report that presents a comprehensive view and assessment of the overall quality of life in San Mateo County.

The 1998 *Indicators* report is intended to promote discussion of significant trends taking place in the county. Furthermore, it is a tool for city and county decision-makers, businesses, and citizens. Through this report, SSMC aims to promote those changes in attitude and action necessary to achieve a sustainable San Mateo County.

continued

This is a work in progress.

Despite this being the second Indicators report, SSMC was not able to address all the topics asked for by the public. Efforts will be made in the future to address some of those topics, including the following:

- amount of income necessary to meet basic needs
- energy consumption
- participation in the arts
- additional economic indicators

Other indicators must wait for availability of statistics:

- level of charitable giving
- adult literacy rate
- percent of people inadequately covered by health insurance

SSMC is committed to making the Indicators report financially sustainable. Continued annual reports depend ultimately on financial support from the community. SSMC recently received \$5,000 from San Mateo County, and is seeking support from the cities, businesses, and individuals in the county. With broad community financial support and dedicated volunteers SSMC will continue producing this report.

The production of this report is a community activity.

In addition to the Project Coordinator, this report was written, edited, and produced by a diverse group of volunteers, including high school students, college students, working professionals, and senior citizens. SSMC thanks all who worked on this report, and gave so generously of their time.

Developments promoting sustainability at the regional and national level include:

The Bay Area Alliance for Sustainable Development is a multi-stake holder coalition formed to develop and implement an action plan that will lead to a more sustainable Bay Area in the future.

The Joint Center for Sustainable Communities, a partnership of the U.S. Conference of Mayors and the National Association of Counties, promotes cities and counties working together for a livable future. It focuses on establishing an information clearinghouse and a peer exchange program; providing technical assistance; and encouraging multi-jurisdictional partnerships.

The President's Council on Sustainable Development issued its report to the President in February, 1996—*Sustainable America; A New Consensus for Prosperity, Opportunity, and a Healthy Environment for the Future*. Reaching a consensus was not easy, as the council members, primarily CEOs of major industries, environmentalists, governmental representatives, and activists for social equity came to the table with diverse and often contentious viewpoints. The report's goals for achieving sustainability, expressing the shared aspirations of the Council's members, are included in the appendices on page 44.

Sustainable development is development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

The World Commission on Environment and Development
Our Common Future

SUMMARY OF WHAT WAS FOUND

Are we living sustainably? In some respects, yes; in other respects, absolutely not. To begin with, San Mateo County has a very high quality of life and is a desirable place to live. The economy is strong, and unemployment is low. The county's water is clean and safe, and consumption is below average for the Bay Area. Funding for our schools continues to increase, and fewer students are dropping out of high school. Yet, we still face many problems. As reported in our 1997 report, housing costs are well above the state and national averages. Freeway and street traffic are extremely heavy, but mass transit is used minimally. Child care slots are few and very expensive.

The following is a snapshot of what we found:

Population

Though the population increased, the county's rate of growth is below the state's rate of growth, and is expected to decline.

Communicable Diseases

Despite the dramatic decrease in the overall infection rate, African-Americans disproportionately suffer from AIDS. Likewise, there is a disparate rate of tuberculosis infection among foreign-born residents. The rate of infection for most enteric (gastrointestinal) and sexually transmitted diseases is low.

Mortality

The mortality rate has slightly decreased. The leading causes of death are cancer, heart disease, firearm injuries, motor vehicle accidents, stroke, unintentional injury, AIDS, infant mortality, suicide, drugs, and homicide. Other than suicide, African-Americans lead all ethnicities with the highest mortality rate among the major causes of death.

Substance Abuse—Treatment Provided

Possibly due to funding cutbacks and reallocation, the total number of people treated for drug and alcohol abuses have declined. The percentage of youth receiving treatment for substance abuse remained steady.

Substance Abuse—DUI

The number of arrests for driving under the influence (DUI) has significantly decreased in the past ten years.

Maternal Health

Both the amount of prenatal care administered and the rate of infant mortality have improved, while deliveries of low birth weight babies remained stable. However, teenage pregnancies are still rising. African-American and Hispanic women significantly trail White and Asian women in receiving prenatal care.

Community Safety

The overall number of crimes reported decreased again. After peaking in 1993, juvenile felonies and misdemeanors fell for the second year in a row, while adult felonies and misdemeanors remained the same. Domestic violence calls are at a ten-year high.

Living In Poverty

Although the poverty level for a family of four increased to nearly \$20,000, the number of people receiving assistance decreased. Food stamp recipients have plummeted, and the number of recipients of Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) and General Relief has also fallen.

Housing Affordability

The median housing costs in San Mateo County are higher than those of the nation, state, and Bay Area. A family of four, making the median income, cannot afford to buy a median priced house or condo in the county. Furthermore, rental costs have increased dramatically.

Homelessness

While the population increased, the rate of homelessness has stayed the same. Nearly a third of the homeless are children. Almost half of those identified as homeless have been so for more than a month.

Employment Trends

Job growth in the county continues to grow at a healthy rate. The Service and Business Service industries experienced the greatest amount of growth. Almost all of the county's businesses have less than 100 employees.

Unemployment

Once again, San Mateo County's unemployment rate is below the nation's and the state's. However, there is substantial diversity in the unemployment rates among some of the cities in the county.

Needs Of Children—Child Abuse

The number of families referred to the San Mateo County Department of Child Welfare Services decreased for the second year in a row. Three quarters of all child abuse referrals are for general neglect, physical abuse, and caretaker absence or incapacity.

Needs Of Children—Child Care

The demand for child care in San Mateo County is 20 percent higher than the state average, and the need for child care far exceeds its availability. Consequently, families pay above the state average to secure child care.

Per Pupil Funding

Per pupil funding per average daily attendance (ADA) continues to rise. Although disparity in funding among schools remains, the gap is closing.

High School Dropouts

San Mateo County's high school dropout rate continues to be lower than that of the state. Although low, the high school dropout rates for Hispanics, African-Americans, Pacific Islanders, and Native Americans are much higher than the dropout rates for Whites, Filipinos, and Asians.

Public Library Use

Public library funding and circulation in the county are higher than the state average. Library hours have increased for the first time in four years.

Voter Participation

San Mateo County's voter participation level for registered voters is slightly higher than the national voter participation level. Despite this, San Mateo County's voter participation level for registered voters is still below 60 percent. General elections receive the highest rate of voter participation, followed by primaries and off-year elections.

Volunteerism

The actual rate of volunteerism is impossible to measure. Using estimates, it appears that the rate of volunteerism remained steady.

City Parks And Open Space

There is a large amount of land dedicated for recreation and the enjoyment of nature in the county. Of the 15 cities responding to our survey, the amount of developed park lands per 1,000 people ranged from .08 to 5.3 acres. Furthermore, the amount of open space per 1,000 people ranged from .07 to 553 acres. All but one of the cities responding to our survey reported that they are adjacent to a county park, a state park, or watershed lands.

Land Use

The majority of urban development is located in the eastern and northern regions of the county. Because of a lack of space, development is moving towards the western region of the county. The dominant urban land uses are residential, infrastructure, commercial, and urban open space.

Agriculture And Forestry

Total acreage for outdoor agriculture has stayed level, while total acreage for indoor agriculture has grown. Indoor and outdoor grown floral and nursery crops comprise the largest percentage of total gross production value. Organic farming is slowly growing in the county.

Transportation

Freeway congestion and vehicle miles traveled are still increasing. During commute hours, most people drive alone, and transit is used minimally.

Sustainability is the ultimate issue. Forging a sustainable society over the next few decades is a challenge we can meet if we have the leadership and will to do so.

Gaylord Nelson, former U.S. Senator and Wisconsin Governor, Founder of Earth Day
S.F. Chronicle, 4/22/96

Quality Of Drinking Water

The county's water, mostly coming from the Hetch Hetchy Reservoir in the Sierra Nevada, is very clean. The levels of all major contaminants in the county's water are far below state standard maximum levels.

Water Consumption

As the drought ended, water consumption in the county increased. Still, San Mateo County's water consumption per capita per day is less than the Bay Area's average water consumption per capita per day.

Solid Waste

Although solid waste diversion (recycling and composting) is increasing, so is disposal into landfills. San Mateo County is far from achieving a 50 percent reduction in solid waste disposal by the year 2000, as mandated by the state.

Air Quality

Carbon monoxide, nitrogen dioxide, sulfur dioxide and PM10 did not exceed the state standard between 1995 and 1996. Ozone has fluctuated between 1995 and 1996. The county's clean air may be due more to prevailing winds which carry our pollution elsewhere than to a reduction in pollution.

Biodiversity

Coastal habitats, both aquatic and terrestrial, contain the largest number of plant and animal species listed as being threatened, endangered, or rare. The amount of protected acreage that is actively being managed for biodiversity would be a good indicator of the quality of habitats. However, this information is unavailable.

Christmas Bird Count

The Audubon Society conducts a yearly bird count during the Christmas season at Año Nuevo and Crystal Springs. The total number of birds at both sites has fluctuated since 1995, while the total number of species remained relatively steady.

Commercial Fish Count And Population

Increased regulations and the deterioration of ocean and river habitats may be partly responsible for a decrease in the number of fish caught. However, the total fish catch is not an accurate method of measuring the fish population off San Mateo County's coast because oceanographic conditions and natural fluctuations and cycles also impact fish populations.

Sustainability In General Plans

Despite contradictory information between last year's *Indicators Report* and this year's *Indicators Report*, sustainability is taking hold in the county. Though only three cities specifically mention sustainability in their general plans, most cities include the concepts of sustainability. Also, several sustainability projects are either completed, in progress, or being considered by cities in San Mateo County.

A common language for the concept of sustainable development is emerging; a language that includes the convergence of the 'three E's of sustainability'—environment, social equity, and economy.

Bay Area Alliance for Sustainable Development Strategic Plan

POPULATION

What Was Measured?

The total population of San Mateo County on July 1 is shown in each of the last 12 years. Additionally, County population trends are estimated to 2040.

Why Is This Important?

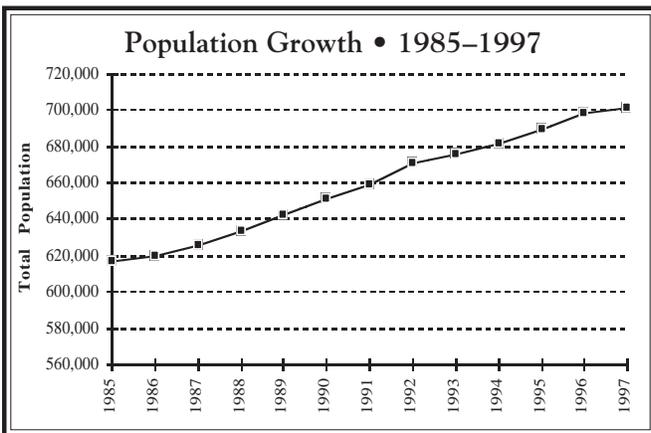
Population statistics represent individuals who reside in San Mateo County. Each seeks a quality life here

Year	County Population	Growth Rate	Calif. Growth Rate
1990	651,400	—	
2000	724,400	11.2%	15.8%
2010	782,900	8.1%	18.0%
2020	827,400	5.6%	16.0%
2030	861,700	4.1%	18.0%
2040	883,800	2.6%	12.9%

where one can work, learn, play, create, and grow. Each individual

seeks to meet basic human needs for physical well-being; shelter, safety, and security; family and friends; and opportunities to fulfill one's potential.

The ability of the political, economic, and social institutions in the county to provide a cultural environment that supports individual needs and goals while maintaining a healthy physical environment is challenged as the population grows. Anticipating our future



needs is an essential beginning to planning effectively for the quality environments we seek to achieve.

What Was Found?

There was a growth of over 13 percent in the past 12 years.

Natural increase (births minus deaths) remained in the 4,500-5,501 range per year. Net migration is a more unpredictable factor causing differences in yearly growth rates.

The population of San Mateo County was 701,100 as of

May of 1997. The racial/ethnic makeup of the county is as follows: 56 percent are white, 20 percent are Hispanic, 19 percent are Asian, and 5 percent are African-American. The fastest growing cities in 1997 were Half Moon Bay, Redwood City, Brisbane, Woodside, and Daly City.

What Is The Trend?

The county population rate of growth is projected to decrease, remaining well below projected state population growth rates.

Sources: State of California, Demographic Unit, Department of Finance, Sacramento, *Population Estimates for Cities & Counties*, May 1997, Reports E1, E2, E6, P1

Researcher: Carol Mink

City	1997	Percent Change
Atherton	7,375	0.7
Belmont	25,200	0.8
Brisbane	3,210	2.6
Burlingame	28,550	1.2
Colma	1,240	0.8
Daly City	101,300	1.4
East Palo Alto	25,050	0.6
Foster City	29,750	1.2
Half Moon Bay	10,850	1.9
Hillsborough	11,350	0.9
Menlo Park	30,550	0.8
Millbrae	21,450	0.5
Pacifica	39,650	0.9
Portola Valley	4,470	1.1
Redwood City	73,200	1.7
San Bruno	40,800	0.5
San Carlos	28,050	0.5
San Mateo	92,200	0.8
So. S.F.	57,600	0.7
Woodside	5,475	1.4
Unincorporated	63,600	1.0

COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

What Was Measured?

The incidence of communicable diseases in San Mateo County is measured. The data shows AIDS cases from 1982-1995, tuberculosis cases from 1985-1995, and enteric (intestinal) diseases (i.e. salmonella, hepatitis A, shigella, and campylobacter) and sexually transmitted diseases (STD) from 1990-1995.

Why Is This Important?

Measuring a community's incidence of communicable diseases is a way to monitor its progress in reducing preventable disease and death. It can also help a community evaluate the effectiveness of educational and preventative programs and reduce disparities in health care for different segments of the population.

continued

Rising numbers indicate higher health care costs as well as increased suffering and lower quality of life for both those who are ill and their family members. Higher numbers of communicable diseases frequently result in high rates of absenteeism in schools and places of employment.

What was Found?

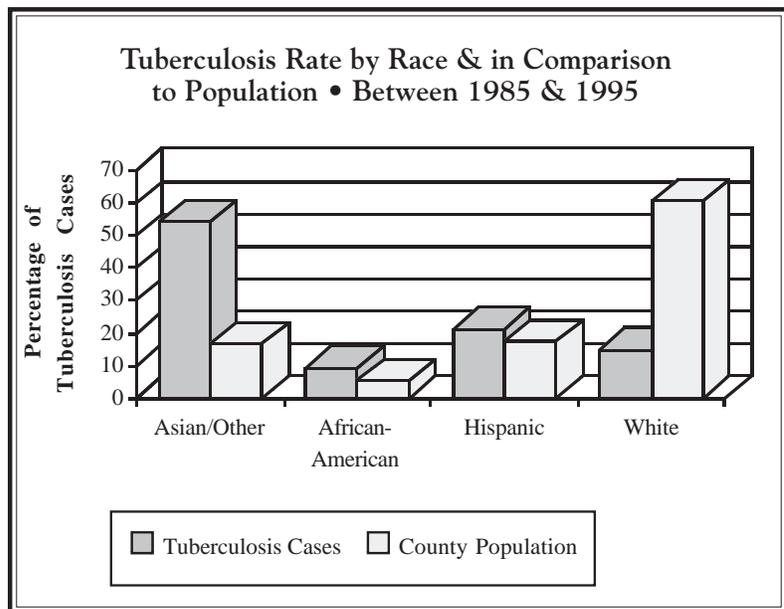
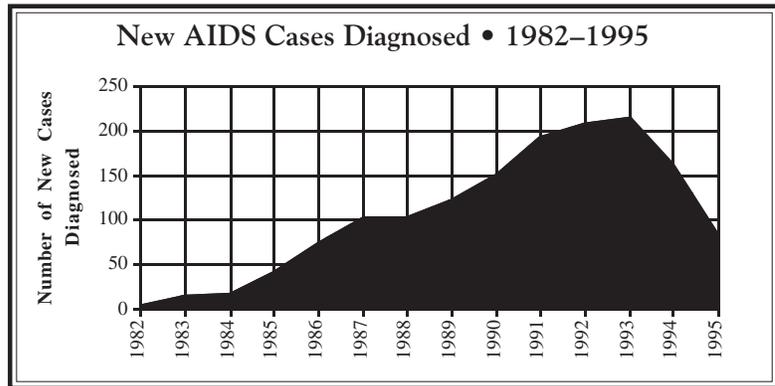
As of June 1996, 1,537 AIDS cases have been reported in San Mateo County. After peaking at 215 in 1993, the number of new AIDS cases reported each year dropped to 162 in 1994 and 84 in 1995. Although accounting for only 16.2 percent of all AIDS cases, African-American males have more than twice the annual average rate of AIDS than do males of other ethnicities, while African-American females have 10 times the annual average rate of AIDS than do females of other ethnicities. Whites constitute 66.5 percent of the total number of AIDS cases, whereas Hispanics constitute 12.4 percent and Asians constitute 4.8 percent. Between 1982 and 1995, East Palo Alto, Daly City, Colma, Redwood City and Brisbane had the highest AIDS rates.

Between 1985 and 1995, the number of tuberculosis cases rose 168 percent from 32 to 86 per year. With a rate of 12.2 tuberculosis cases per 100,000 people, San Mateo is below the state rate of approximately 14 cases per 100,000 people, but above the national rate of approximately 8.5 per 100,000 people. Foreign born individuals account for 72 percent of tuberculosis cases, yet the number of US born cases continues to rise.

Higher than the state and national rates, the number of salmonella cases decreased and the number of shigella cases remained stable between 1990 and 1995. Lower than the state and national rates, the number of hepatitis A cases was also stable while the number of campylobacter cases fluctuated between 1990 and 1995.

The number of syphilis cases increased from 43 in 1990 to 107 in 1993, but then decreased to 37 in 1995.

Gonorrhea dropped by 77 percent from 814 cases in 1990 to 184 cases in 1995, and chlamydia also dropped 35 percent from 1,629 cases in 1990 to 1,055 cases in 1995. Considering the increase in chlamydia cases throughout the state and nation, San Mateo County's



decrease may be the result of a reduction in screening and reporting as opposed to an actual decline.

What Is The Trend?

There are encouraging and discouraging conclusions in regards to communicable diseases in San Mateo County. The significant decreases in AIDS, gonorrhea and syphilis are indicative of an increase in preventative behaviors by the public. Furthermore, the life span of people with AIDS increased dramatically. Yet, African-Americans have a much higher rate of AIDS than do any other ethnicity. Lastly, tuberculosis continues to increase for both foreign born and US born citizens.

Source: San Mateo County Health Services Agency, Public Health and Environmental Protection Division, *Healthy San Mateo 2000: Health Status Indicators, Fall 1996*

Researcher: Thomas Mills

MORTALITY

What Was Measured?

The mortality rate and causes of death per 100,000 residents in San Mateo County were measured. The information is based on a two-year average for the rate of AIDS deaths among young people (15–44) and three-year averages for all other causes of death. Three-year averages are used to reduce year-to-year fluctuations and to increase the stability of estimated events over a single year.

Why Is This Important?

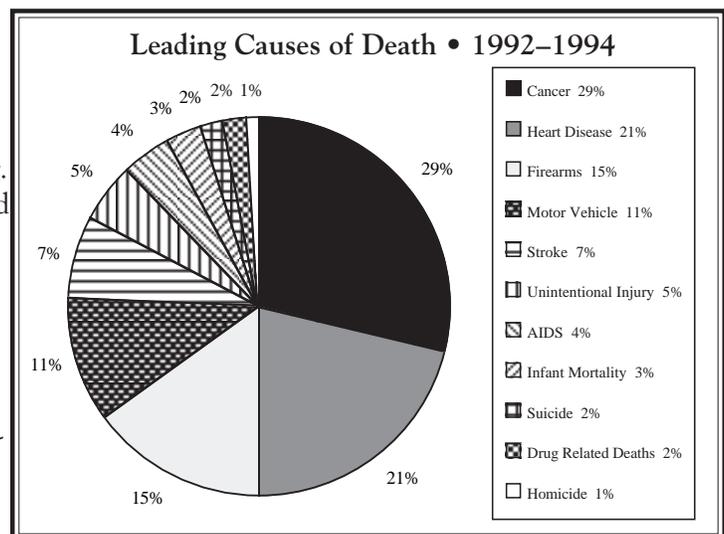
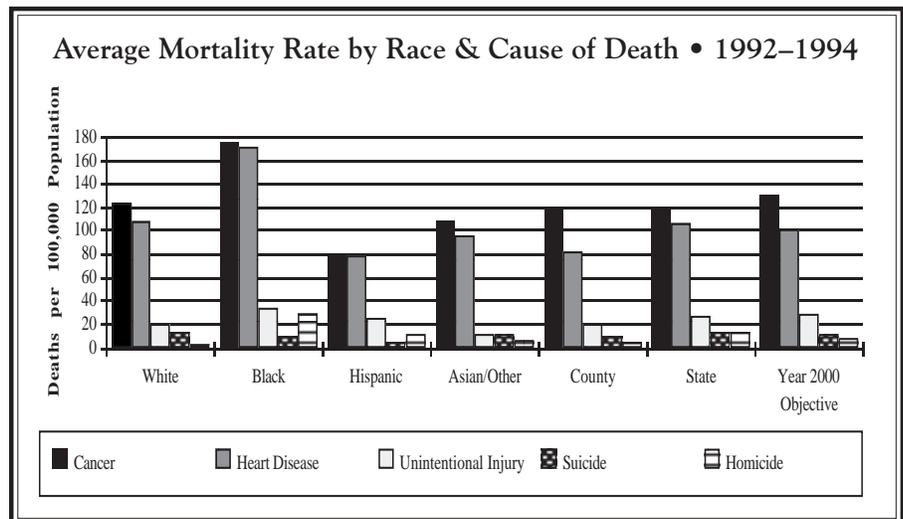
A sustainable community works toward decreasing its preventable deaths and improving public health. Mortality rates provide useful information on the health status of a community for those working in health promotion, preventive services, and long-term planning. Fluctuations in mortality rates can indicate a need for analysis to determine causes and program changes. For example, a rise in infant mortality could signal inadequate prenatal care and the need for health education programs.

What Was Found?

Between 1993 and 1995, the age-adjusted mortality rate for all causes of death was 401.8 per 100,000 population. This represents a 2 percent decrease in the mortality rate.

From 1992 to 1994, the leading causes of death were cancer, heart disease, firearm injuries, motor vehicle accidents, stroke, unintentional injury, AIDS, infant mortality, suicide, drugs, and homicide. Cancer and heart disease continue to be the two leading causes of death. Mirroring the state, cancer was responsible for an average of 117.5 deaths per 100,000 people, with lung, breast and colon as the leading forms. However, the county recorded lower rates of death by heart disease, homicide, suicide and unintentional injuries than the state. The average rate of death by stroke continues to be higher than that of the state. Between 1993 and 1994, AIDS was the leading cause of death among people aged 15 to 44 years.

Except for suicide, African-Americans lead all other ethnicities with the highest death rate among all major causes. Furthermore, African-Americans between the ages of 15 and 24 are three times more likely than



Hispanics and ten times more likely than Whites to be victims of homicide.

What Is The Trend?

The mortality rate in San Mateo County decreased by 7 percent since 1991. With the exception of stroke, the county succeeded in remaining at or below the state's average mortality rate for major causes of death. Yet African-Americans have a disproportionately higher rate of mortality than do all other ethnicities. Meanwhile, young people have the highest AIDS related mortality rate despite prevention efforts targeted towards them.

Source: San Mateo County Health Services Agency, Public Health and Environmental Protection Division, *Healthy San Mateo 2000: Health Status Indicators*, Fall 1996

Researcher: Thomas Mills

SUBSTANCE ABUSE: Arrests for Driving Under the Influence

What Was Measured?

The number of non-felony arrests in San Mateo County for driving under the influence (DUI) of alcohol or drugs was measured from 1986 to 1995.

Why Is This Important?

Persons driving under the influence of alcohol or other drugs pose a serious threat to the safety and well-being of members of any community. Although an increase in the number of DUI cases can reflect enforcement efforts, it may also represent an increase in the number of persons driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs, which equates to an increased probability that an accident will occur and that a serious injury or even fatality will ensue.

What Was Found?

There were 4,200 non-felony arrests for DUI in the county during calendar year 1995. This amounts to 609 DUI arrest per 100,000 people. The total number of DUI arrests fell 8 percent from the previous year.

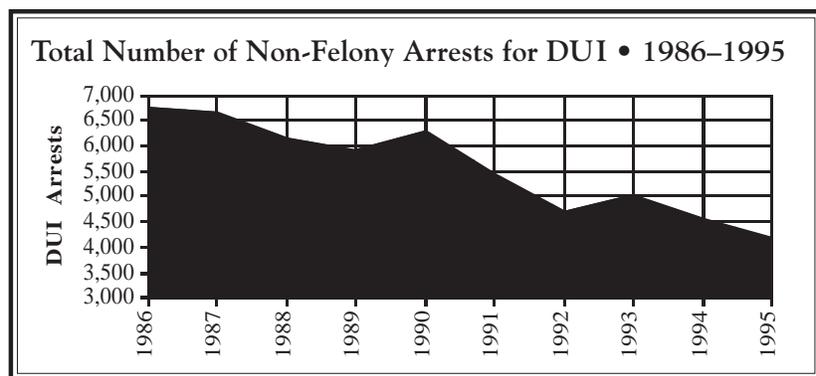
What Is The Trend?

Since 1986, the total number of non-felony arrests for DUI in San Mateo County decreased by 38 percent from 6,740 arrests per year to 4,200 arrests per year.

This year's *Indicators Report* measured DUI by calendar year, whereas last year's report measured DUI by fiscal year.

Source: State of California, Office of the Attorney General, Criminal Justice Services Division, Criminal Justice Statistics Center, *Criminal Justice Profile, 1995, San Mateo County*.

Researcher: Thomas Mills



SUBSTANCE ABUSE: People Provided Treatment

What Was Measured?

Shown here are the numbers of unduplicated adults and youth participating in the available San Mateo County drug and alcohol treatment services during calendar years 1995 and 1996.

The number of people receiving drug and alcohol treatment is presented in terms of a “head count” as opposed to the “units of service” provided by the county. By tracking the recipients of treatment in terms of a “head count,” the county avoids duplication of people who receive treatment services more than once. Numbers in the previous report were presented as “units of service,” or the number of people the county provided treatment to, regardless of duplication.

Why Is This Important?

Problems of alcohol and other drug use affect not only the lives of those who use these substances, but also members of the community who must face the repercussions from the abuser's behavior, such as drunk driving and domestic violence.

Treatment services are an integral part of alleviating the immediate consequences of substance abuse and ultimately help reduce the long term costs of health care. They are also instrumental in promoting independence and stability for the individual and safety for the community.

What Was Found?

There were 3,749 unduplicated persons enrolled in county sponsored drug and alcohol treatment services in 1995 and 3,034 unduplicated participants in 1996. Ten percent of the total number of persons receiving treatment for drug and alcohol abuse were less than 19 years old for both 1995 and 1996.

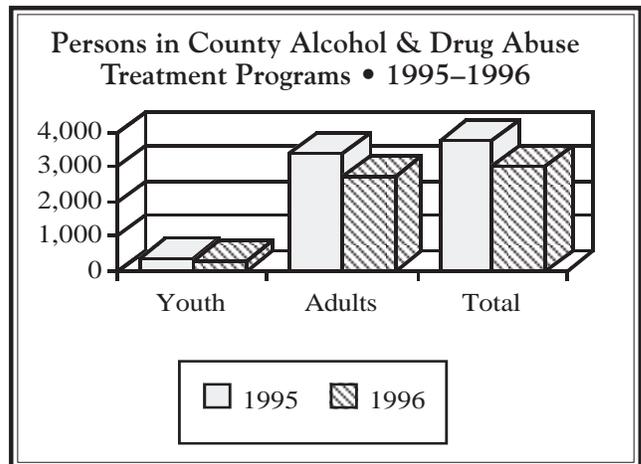
The numbers for 1995 are lower than those presented in last year's report because they represent a “head count,” whereas last year's report presented the numbers in “units of service.”

What Is The Trend?

The 19 percent decrease in persons participating in county sponsored drug and alcohol treatment services between 1995 and 1996 is most likely explained by a reduction in service capacity as a result of funding cutbacks and a reallocation of money among treatment services. The percentage of youth receiving treatment remained steady between 1995 and 1996.

Source: Tom Abbot, Information Technology Analyst, Business Systems Group, Human Services Agency, San Mateo County.

Researcher: Thomas Mills



MATERNAL HEALTH

What Was Measured?

Prenatal care, low birth weight (under 5.5lbs.), births to teenage girls (below 17 years of age) and infant mortality are measured from 1989 to 1994. Adequate prenatal care was measured by the Kessler Index, which uses gestational age, number of prenatal visits, and time of prenatal care to determine adequacy of care.

Why Is This Important?

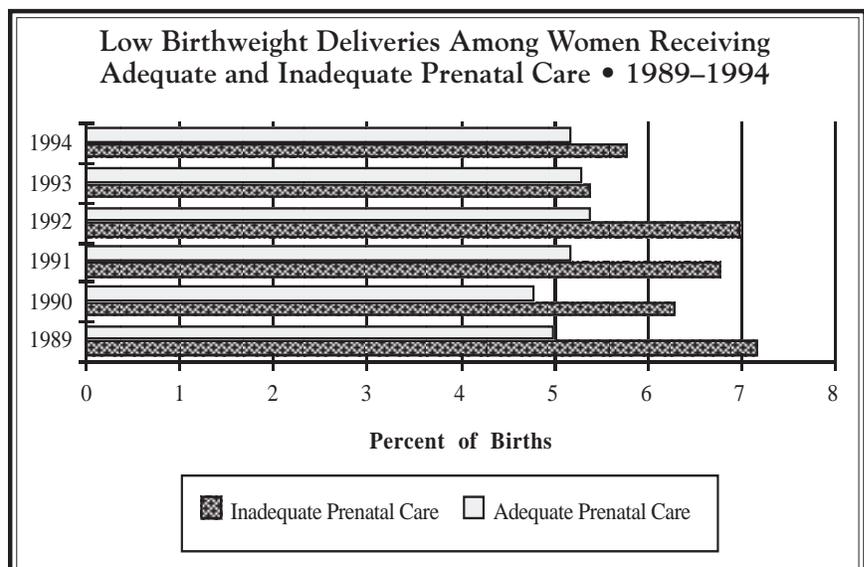
Early prenatal care is essential for preventing infant mortality, low birthweights, and illness. Low birthweight is one of the primary causes of death for an infant in the first year of life. A sustainable community makes certain that adequate prenatal care and access to health care is available to all women, thus providing every newborn with the opportunity to thrive and become a healthy, productive adult. In addition, this preventative care will reduce the long term social and medical burdens placed on a community.

What Was Found?

The overall rate of prenatal care continues to improve from 77 percent in 1989 to 82 percent in 1994. Adequate prenatal care increased by 14 percent for African-American women, the most for any racial/ethnic group, from 66 percent

of births in 1989 to nearly 76 percent of births in 1994. Hispanic women still have the lowest rate of adequate prenatal care with just over 70 percent in 1994, while approximately 90 percent of White and Asian women have received adequate prenatal care. The rate of prenatal care among pregnant teenage girls rose from 48 percent in 1989 to 62 percent in 1994. Yet, between 1989 and 1994, only 55 percent of teens receiving prenatal care received it in their first trimester, while 83 percent of adult pregnant women received prenatal care in their first trimester. Zip codes with the highest rates of inadequate prenatal care were found in East Palo Alto, Redwood City and San Mateo.

continued



Overall, the rate of low birthweight deliveries remained at approximately 5 percent between 1989 and 1994. Women receiving adequate prenatal care still have a lower rate of low birthweight deliveries than

women receiving inadequate prenatal care. Though declining from 14 percent in 1989 to 11 percent in 1994, African-American women still have the highest rate of low birthweight infants by nearly 50 percent more than the next highest ethnicity. Just over 6 percent of Filipino and 5 percent of White, Hispanic and Asian deliveries resulted in low birthweight infants as of 1994. After steadily increasing from 8.8 percent in 1989 to 9.6 percent in 1992, low birthweight deliveries among teenagers significantly decreased to 7.1 percent in 1994.

Asians had the lowest infant mortality rate in 1996 with only 2.1 deaths per 1,000 births. Hispanics and Pacific Islanders each followed with a rate of 3.2 deaths per 1,000 births, while Whites recorded a rate of 4.6 deaths and Filipinos recorded a rate of 6.3 deaths. Despite decreasing by 8.6 deaths since peaking at 16.5 deaths in 1991, African-Americans still had the highest infant mortality rate of 7.9 deaths per 1,000 births in 1996.

African-Americans' teenage birth rate of 8.3 percent was more than all other races combined in 1995. Hispanics had a teenage birth rate of 5.8 percent, while Whites and Asian/Pacific Islanders had a teenage birth rate of 1 percent each.

What Is The Trend?

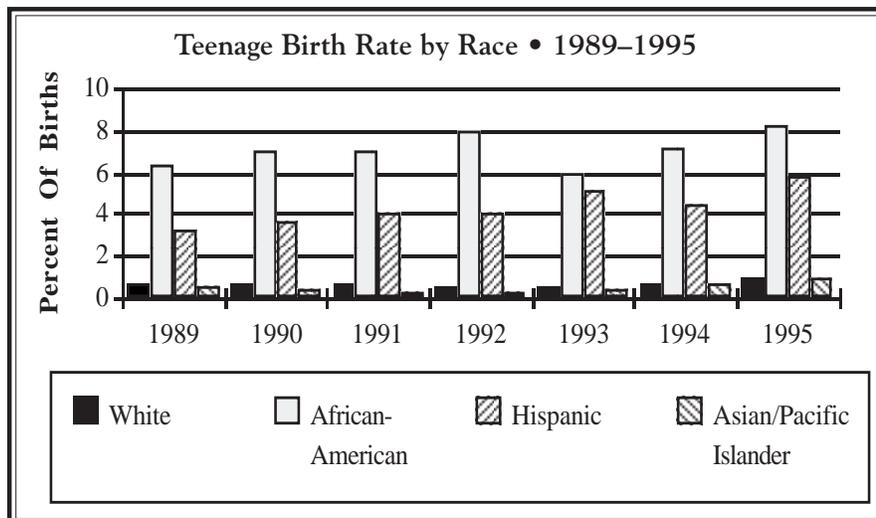
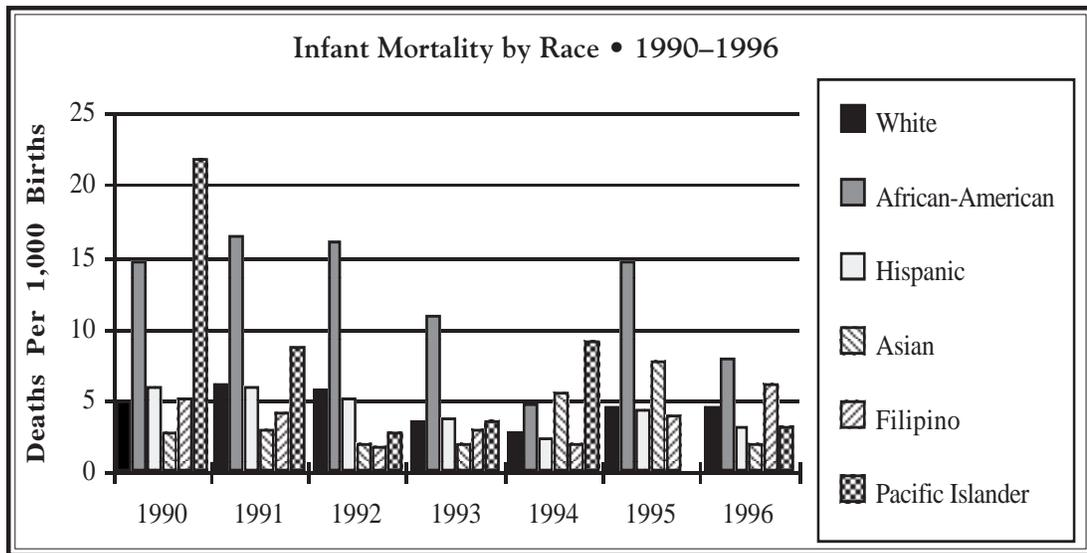
The rise in prenatal care is beginning to have positive results for minority communities. Particularly for African-Americans, as prenatal care increased,

low birthweight deliveries and infant deaths substantially decreased. However, African-Americans and Hispanics still significantly trail Whites and Asians in receiving adequate prenatal care.

The same trend is occurring among teenagers. Low birthweight deliveries declined as prenatal care increased. Yet, many pregnant teens still are not receiving prenatal care. Access to adequate prenatal care among teens is essential as the teenage birth rate continues to rise.

Sources: San Mateo County Health Services Agency, Public Health and Environmental Protection Division, *Healthy San Mateo 2000: Health Status Indicators, Fall 1996*; San Mateo County, DPH, Disease Control and Prevention, *Death Records 1990-96*; California Department of Health Services *Birth File*

Researcher: Thomas Mills



COMMUNITY SAFETY

What Was Measured?

Shown here are the overall number of crimes reported per 100,000 residents in San Mateo County, and adult and juvenile arrests per 100,000 residents for felonies, misdemeanors, and violent crimes. Domestic violence calls for assistance are also shown by city for 1995.

Why Is This Important?

Personal safety is crucial for maintaining a strong sense of community, a high quality of life, and healthy families. Criminal activity negatively affects our physical and psychological well-being and results in fear and personal suffering. High crime rates force the community to channel its resources to law enforcement and detention programs, draining the human and financial resources of governments and community programs. A high juvenile rate reveals deep problems in a community. Youths who continue criminal behavior don't develop into emotionally stable and productive individuals, affecting the long-term well-being and stability of the community.

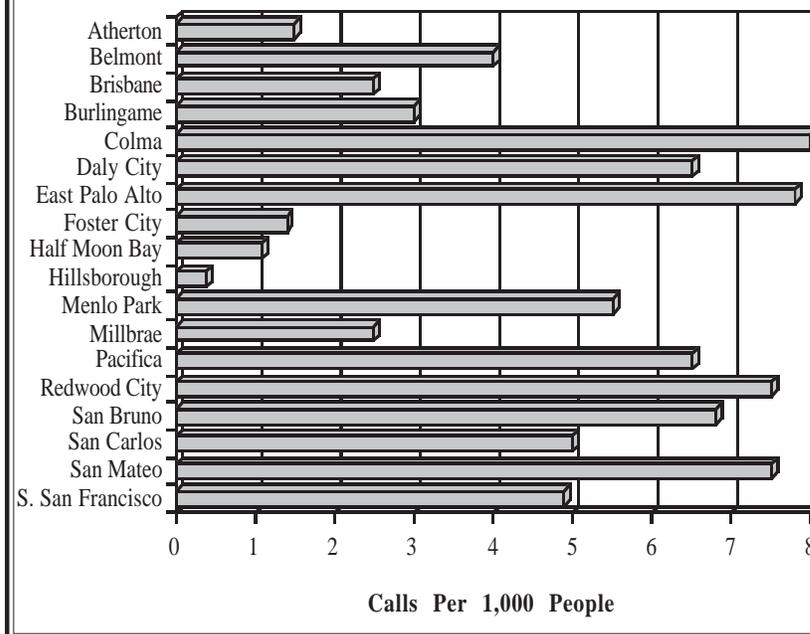
What Was Found?

The overall number of reported crimes per 100,000 residents in San Mateo County fell for the fourth year in a row and the fifth time in the past six years to 3,769 in 1995. This represents a 5 percent drop from the prior year. Of the total number of crimes reported, 10.8 percent were violent crimes.

While adult felony arrests experienced a slight increase of 2 percent, adult misdemeanor arrests fell by 3 percent between 1994 and 1995. There was a 13 percent increase among adults for violent felony arrests.

Among juveniles, there was a 16 percent decrease in felony arrests and a 9 percent decrease in misdemeanor arrests. Also, violent felony arrests fell by 24 percent among juveniles.

Domestic-Violence-Related Calls for Assistance • 1995

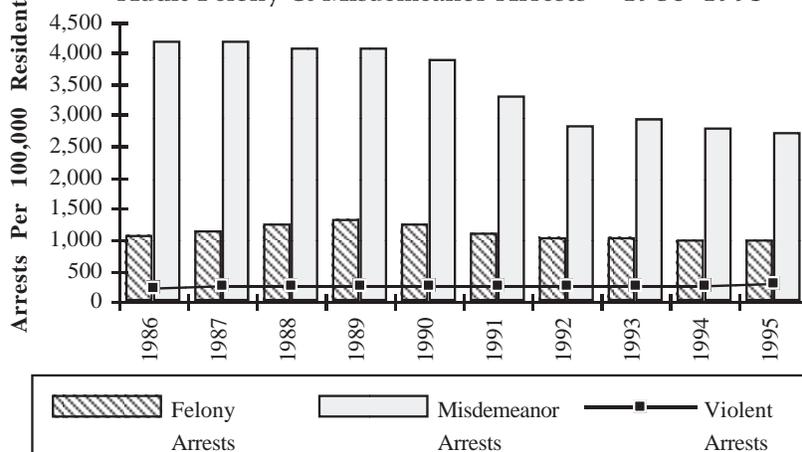


The most common felony arrests in 1995 were for assault, narcotics, theft, and burglary. The most common misdemeanor arrests were for driving under the influence, petty theft, drunkenness, non-fatal traffic violations, and assault and battery.

The total number of domestic-violence-related calls for assistance was 3,742, the highest number in the past ten years. Of those calls, 2,012 were cases in which a weapon was involved.

continued

Adult Felony & Misdemeanor Arrests • 1986-1995



What Is The Trend?

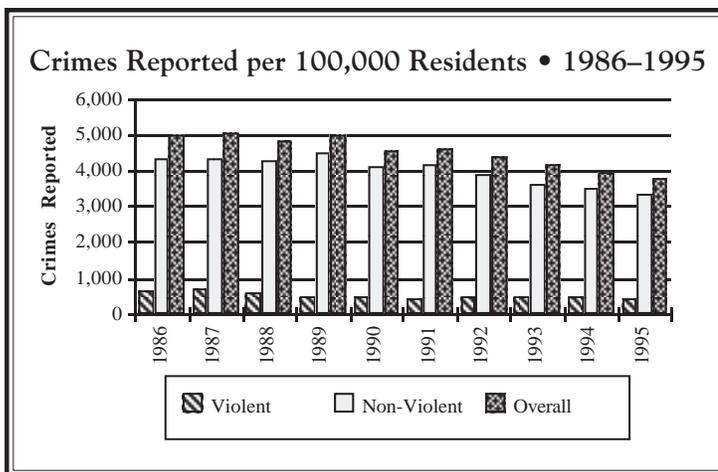
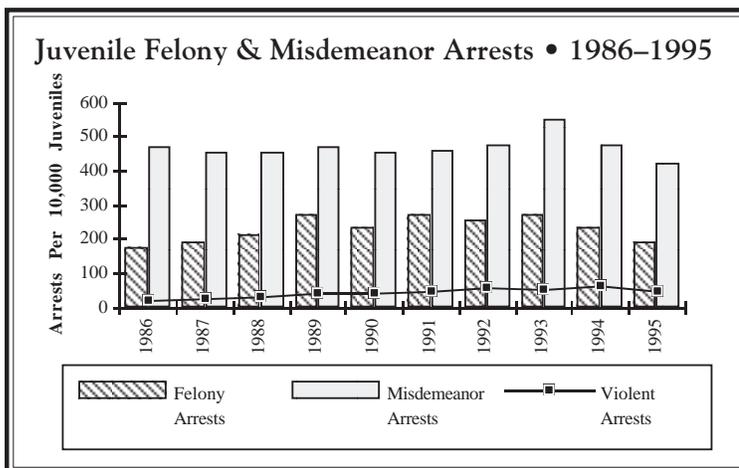
Between 1986 and 1995, the number of reported crimes per 100,000 residents dropped from 5,006 per year to 3,769 per year. This represents a 25 percent decline and is the lowest number of reported crimes in the past ten years.

In the ten years between 1986 and 1995, total misdemeanor arrests per 100,000 residents fell by 32 percent, while total felony arrests per 100,000 residents decreased by 3 percent, with a 36 percent increase in total arrests for violent felonies.

Adult misdemeanor arrests per 100,000 residents fell by 35 percent, while adult felony arrests per 100,000 residents only declined by 5 percent between 1986 and 1995. Among juveniles, misdemeanor arrests per 100,000 residents decreased by 12 percent and felony arrests per 100,000 residents increased by 5 percent.

Source: State of California, Office of the Attorney General, Criminal Justice Services Division, Criminal Justice Statistics Center, *Criminal Justice Profile, 1995, San Mateo County*.

Researcher: Thomas Mills



COMMUNITY SAFETY

LIVING IN POVERTY

What Was Measured?

The poverty threshold, the income level below which poverty exists, for a family of four in San Mateo County is presented. Also, data comparing the numbers of recipients receiving public assistance in fiscal years '94-'95, '95-'96, and the third quarter of '96-'97 is shown. Lastly, there is a comparison of average monthly payments for recipients of Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC), General Relief, Food Stamps, and Supplemental Security Income/State Supplementary Payment (SSI/SSP).

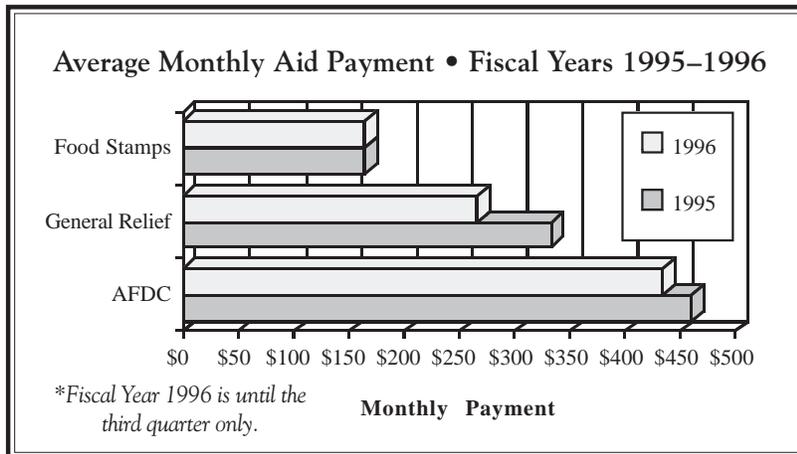
The data available is a measurement of individuals who live below the poverty line and receive public assistance. There is no measurement available of individuals who live below the poverty line, but do not receive public assistance. Therefore, the data presented shows only a portion of the poverty rate in San Mateo County.

Why Is This Important?

A sustainable society is one in which each individual has the opportunity to develop and make the best use of his or her unique gifts. Those living in poverty are often unable to fulfill their potential because their nutritional, health care, and educational needs are inadequately met. Children are especially vulnerable, as deprivation can stunt growth and cognitive development lasting into adulthood.

The definition most often used for sustainability is "to meet the needs of the present generation while not compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs." The needs of the present generation are not being met if there are those among us who cannot afford adequate food, health care, housing, and clothes. In addition, county general funds spent on entitlements leaves less for discretionary programs, such as parks and libraries.

LIVING IN POVERTY



What Is The Trend?

Although the poverty level may have remained steady, the number of people receiving public assistance decreased significantly. Probably the main explanation for this is the recent wave in welfare cutbacks. With the help of a strong economy and job placement efforts by the San Mateo County Human Services Agency, some public assistance recipients are finding jobs. This may account also for some of the decrease in the number of people receiving assistance. Another explanation

What Was Found?

The 1997 yearly income threshold in which a family of four is considered to be at the poverty level (30 percent of the median income or less) in San Mateo County is \$19,320. The median income for a family of four in the county is \$64,400.

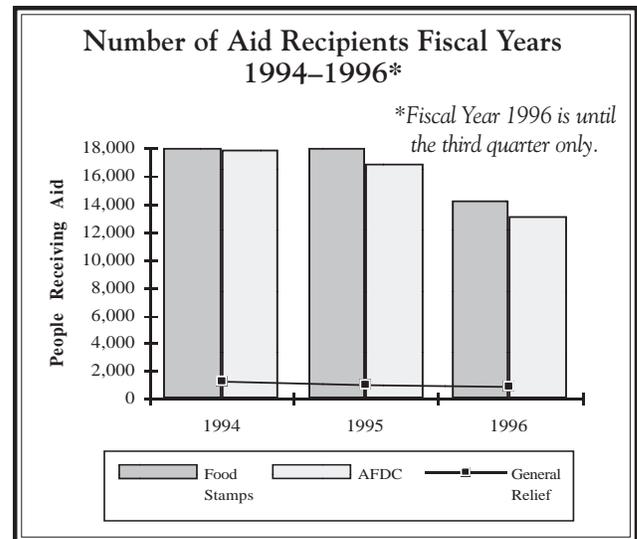
After four years of steady increases, the number of recipients of AFDC peaked during fiscal year '94-'95 at 17,937. The total number of AFDC recipients slid to 16,850 during fiscal year '95-'96 and 13,118 by the end of the third quarter of fiscal year '96-'97.

The number of single, adult, General Relief recipients also fell in the past three years. Reaching 1,230 in fiscal year '94-'95, General Relief recipients decreased to 1,030 during fiscal year '95-'96 and 926 as of the third quarter of fiscal year '96-'97.

Remaining at just over 18,000 during fiscal years '94-'95 and '95-'96, the number of food stamp recipients plummeted to 14,223 by the end of the third quarter of fiscal year '96-'97.

SSI/SSP assistance is available only to those who are elderly, blind, or disabled. Information regarding SSI/SSP was available only for the third quarter of fiscal year '96-'97. Of the 13,344 recipients of SSI/SSP, 5,997 were elderly, 232 were blind, and 7,115 were disabled.

for the decline in public assistance recipients might be migration. The poor may be leaving for other Bay Area regions due to the lack of housing affordability in the county.



Source: California Department of Social Services, Health and Welfare Agency, Information Services Bureau, *Public Welfare In California, Annual Report, 1995–96*; California Department of Social Services, Health and Welfare Agency, Information Services Bureau, *Public Welfare In California, March 1997, Statistical Series PA3-450*; City of San Mateo, Housing and Economic Development Division, Community Funding Income Eligibility; Interview with Maureen Borland, Director, San Mateo County Human Services Agency.

Researcher: Thomas Mills

If a free society cannot help the many who are poor, it cannot save the few who are rich.

John F. Kennedy

HOUSING AFFORDABILITY

What Was Measured?

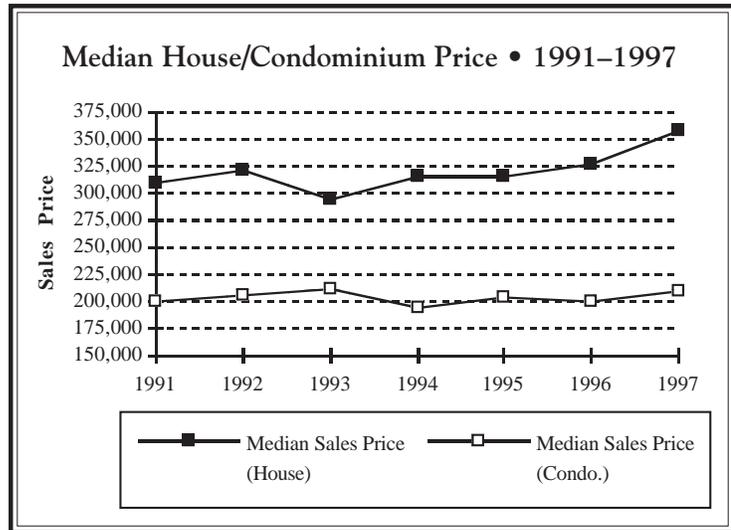
The following were measured: the relationship between the countywide median price of a single-family home and condominium; the countywide average rent for a vacant 1-bedroom and 2-bedroom apartment; apartment vacancy rates; and the ability to pay annual housing costs. Lending institutions when considering a loan application for real estate within San Mateo County assume housing should cost no more than 35 percent of gross household income per year. (Countywide median data exclude the affluent cities of Atherton, Hillsborough, Portola Valley, and Woodside since they represent a small percentage of the total county population and, if included, would skew the data toward the high end.)

Why Is This Important?

A lack of affordable housing limits the ability of young people to remain in the county after they enter the work force and makes it difficult for employers to recruit qualified workers. If housing in the county is too expensive, people employed in the county obtain housing in neighboring counties and commute in. If there are not enough high-paying jobs in the county to support the high cost of housing, county residents are forced to commute out to adjacent counties to work. This jobs-housing imbalance contributes to traffic congestion. Lack of affordable housing also leads to overcrowding of housing units, can drive low-income people below the poverty line, and severely limits the housing options for elderly people on fixed incomes. In some cases, this can lead to homelessness.

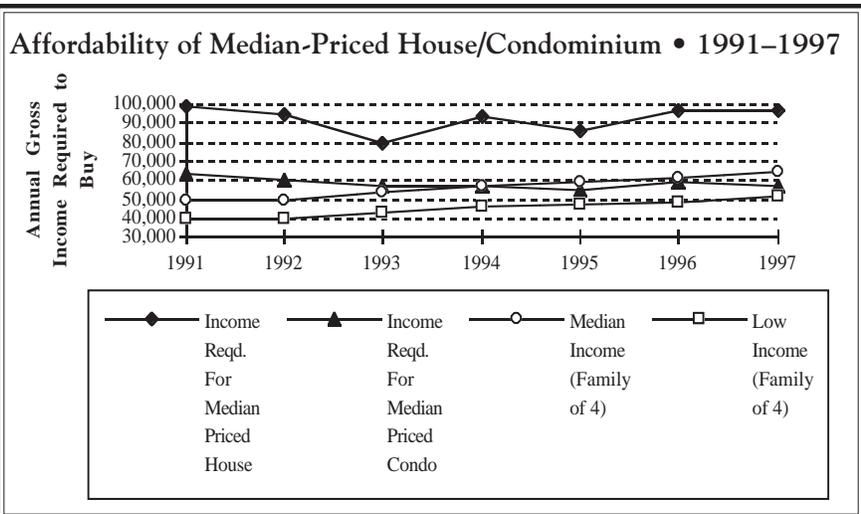
What Was Found?

The countywide median income for a family of four rose 10 percent from 1995 to 1997 to \$64,400. The countywide median purchase price for a single-family home rose 13 percent while the countywide median price for a condominium increased only 3 percent in the same time period. In the first half of 1997, the median-income family of four could afford to purchase the countywide median-



priced condominium, but they could not afford to buy the countywide median-priced single-family home. At the same time, low-income households (defined by the Department of Housing and Urban Development [HUD] as 80 percent of median income) could not even afford the median-priced condominium.

Between 1995 and 1996, the countywide average monthly rent for a vacant apartment increased 13 percent for both one-bedroom apartments (\$840 to \$950) and two-bedroom apartments (\$1,050 to \$1,190). Nevertheless, countywide median-income and low-income families could afford to pay average rents during that time period. During the same time period, the countywide average vacancy rate dropped to a low of 1.3 percent. This means that demand for rental housing greatly exceeded supply and vacant apartments were very difficult to find. Rental data for



HOUSING AFFORDABILITY, continued

1997 was not readily available, but anecdotal evidence suggests that rents continue to climb and vacancy rates remain tight.

Of the families making less than countywide median income, some are paying low mortgage payments on homes they have owned for a long time, or are paying less than average rents. Families earning very-low income (defined by HUD as 50 percent of median) may pay more than 35 percent of income for housing, live in subsidized housing, share housing with others, live in substandard housing, or be homeless.

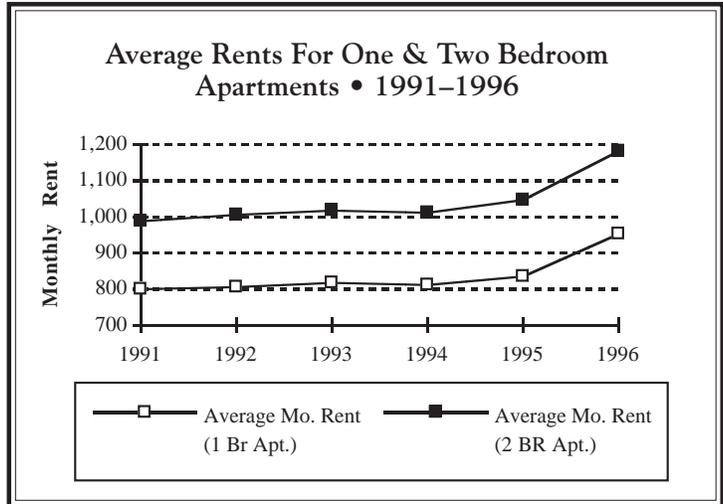
Refer to Appendix on page 43 for breakdown of housing affordability by city.

What Is The Trend?

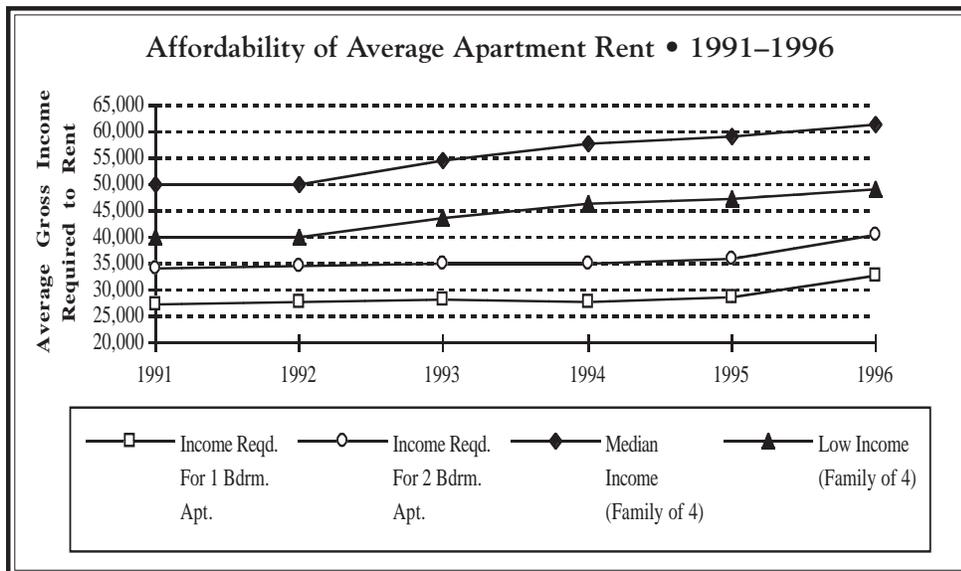
According to statistics by the California Association of Realtors, only 16 percent of median-income households in the county could afford to purchase the median-priced single-family home in April 1997. This is a slight improvement from the summer of 1991 when only 12 percent of households could afford to buy a home, but it is still low compared to the state and the nation.

San Mateo County continues to lag behind the nation, the state, and the Bay Area in affordable single-family housing. In the first half of 1997, the median-priced home in the county cost \$356,500 as compared to \$125,600 in the nation, \$193,790 in California, and \$299,030 in the San Francisco Bay Area. Similarly, the countywide median cost of a condominium (\$209,000) exceeded that in the state (\$193,790).

Apartments in the county are generally affordable to the majority of households, but the supply of available apartments is very limited.



A recent Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) report estimates that in 1997, San Mateo County will have one job for every 1.28 living units, yet the preferred ratio is 1.5 living units. This indicates that the county will continue to have a deficit in available residential units in the foreseeable future. This also means that housing prices in the county may be expected to remain at high levels, vacant apartments will remain in short supply, and rents will continue to rise. Pressure may be expected to increase in support of the construction of more housing of all types within the county.



Sources: County of San Mateo; Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG); California Association of Realtors; San Mateo County Association of Realtors; HUD.

Researcher: David Crabbe

HOMELESSNESS

What Was Measured?

Fifteen agencies in San Mateo County that provide services to the homeless collect data on the number of unduplicated individuals whom they serve. Because the homeless are served by more than one agency, an accurate count requires that there be no duplication of individuals. Shown here is the percentage of the total population in 1996 who were served and counted by these agencies. Also measured are the total number of homeless, the number of homeless children, and the number of homeless families. Lastly, the gender, age, ethnicity, duration of homelessness, and frequency of homelessness are shown.

This count does not include all the homeless because there are additional agencies serving the homeless that do not keep records or release information about their clients.

Furthermore, this count does not include homeless persons who received no services at all.

Why Is This Important?

Homelessness is an indicator of community stress. Individuals or families become homeless for many reasons, including lack of affordable housing, lack of job opportunities, insufficient wages, substance abuse, mental or physical illness or a combination of these and other factors.

What Was Found?

There were 4,663 homeless persons in San Mateo County in 1996. This accounted for 0.7 percent of the county's population. Included in this total were 539 families. Among the homeless population counted, 61 percent were men, 39 percent were women and 32 percent were children.

Whites comprised 39 percent of the homeless persons counted, while African-Americans comprised 29 percent, and Hispanics comprised 26 percent. Asian/Pacific Islanders, Mixed Ethnicity/Other, and Native Americans comprised a total of 6 percent of the homeless persons counted. Of the adult homeless, 37 percent were 31-40 years old, 26 percent were 18-30 years old, 25 percent were 41-50 years old, and 12 percent were 51 years old or older.

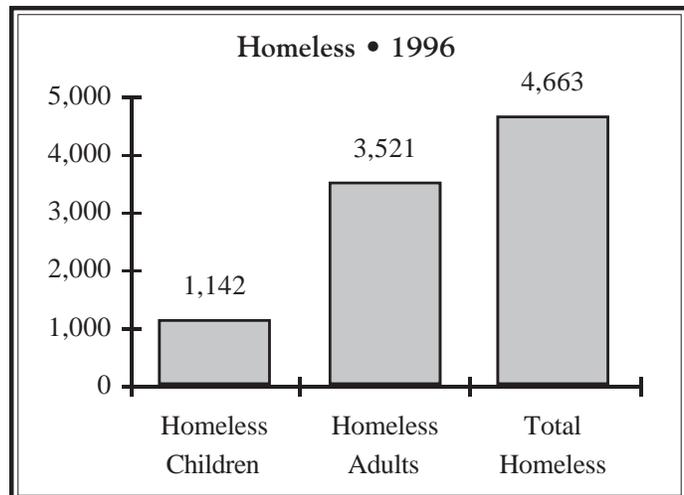
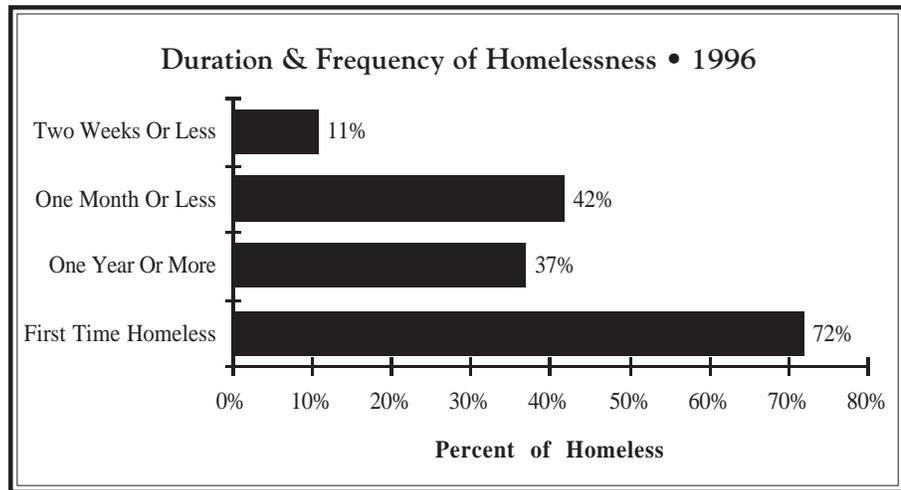
In 1996, 72 percent of the homeless were experiencing homelessness for the first time. Also, 11 percent had been homeless for two weeks or less, 42 percent of the homeless had been homeless for one month or less, and 37 percent had been homeless for one year or more.

What Is The Trend?

Although the number of homeless persons increased since 1994, the percentage of the county population that was homeless remained steady. However, the number of homeless children declined by 38 percent since 1994.

Source: Tom Roberts, Homeless Coordinator, Housing Division, San Mateo County Human Services Department; CA State Department of Finance, Demographic Research Unit.

Researcher: Thomas Mills



EMPLOYMENT TRENDS

What Was Measured?

The percentage of San Mateo County's work force employed by the ten largest employers, the number and percentage of all businesses in the county operating with fewer than 100 employees, and the change in the total number of jobs by industry between 1991 and 1996 were measured.

Why Is This Important?

Diversity of employment is an important component of sustainability. When a community is dependent on a few large industries or companies for economic sustenance, it becomes vulnerable to sudden market changes and cyclical downturns which may cause massive layoffs. Thus, having a large number of small and medium sized businesses, widely distributed over several industries, is important for maintaining a diverse and strong economic base. Also important in determining the long term economic sustainability are the types of industries projecting the highest job growth. For instance, many jobs in the retail and service sectors are lower paying, less secure, and provide poorer benefits than jobs in other sectors.

What Was Found?

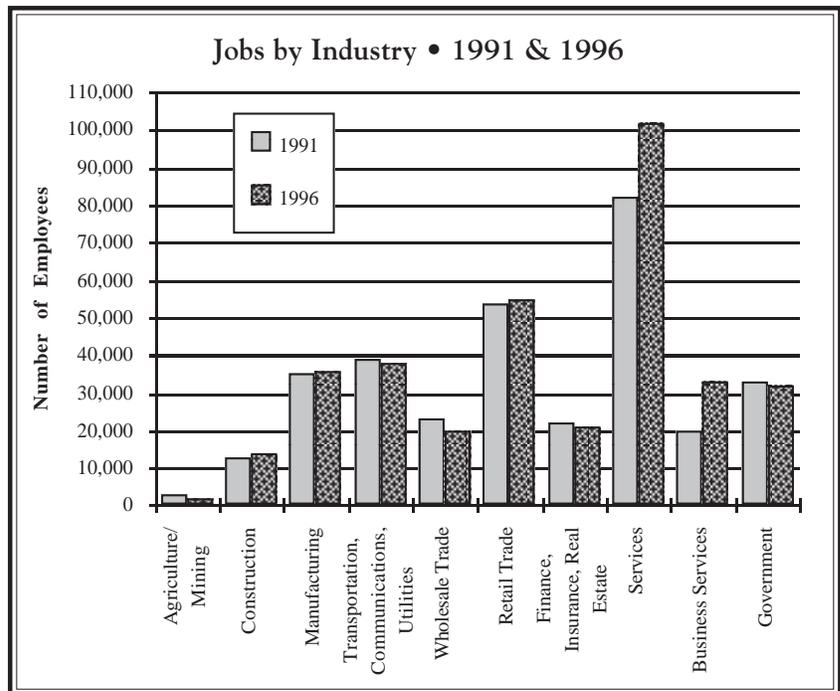
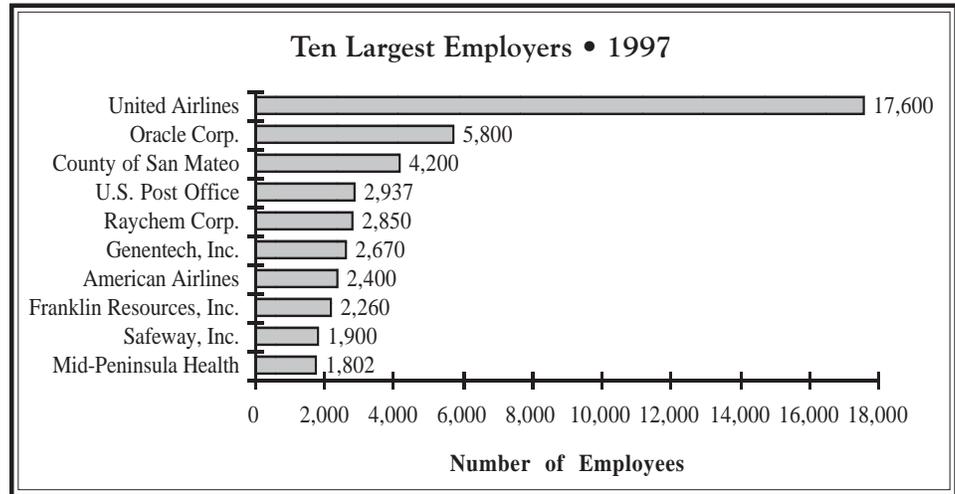
The total number of jobs in the county was 375,400 as of March 1997. The ten largest employers provided 11.83 percent of these jobs. United Airlines employed the most people, with 17,699 full-time positions.

There were 22,482 businesses in the county in 1997. Of these businesses, 22,002 had fewer than 100 employees. This constitutes 98 percent of all businesses in the county.

What Is The Trend?

Since 1987, the total number of jobs in San Mateo

County increased by 12.6 percent. The industries with the greatest employment growth in San Mateo County since 1991 are Services (health services, legal services, educational services, social services, engineering and management services, and auto and miscellaneous repair services) and Business Services (computer and data processing, advertising, personnel supply, equipment rental and leasing, mailing, reproduction and stenographic services).



In regards to the percentage of businesses with fewer than 100 employees, there is a significant difference between this year's report and last year's report. This discrepancy is attributed to the use of different sources.

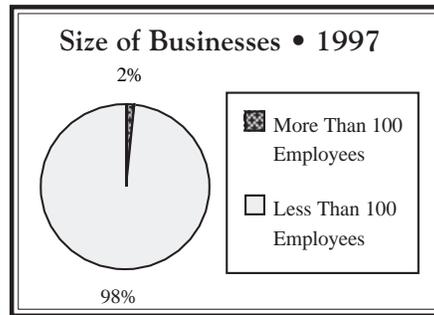
continued

EMPLOYMENT TRENDS, continued

The source used for this year's report is more comprehensive than the source used for last year's report. The percentage of businesses with fewer than 100 employees has actually remained steady for the past two years.

Sources: California State Employment Development Department (EDD); San Mateo County Economic Development Association (SAMCEDA)

Researchers: Laila Jadelrab, Vikki Katz, Grace Pun, Mills High School



UNEMPLOYMENT

What Was Measured?

Shown here is the annual average unemployment rate from 1987 to 1996 for San Mateo County, California, and the United States.

For tracking purposes, any persons sixteen years of age and older who did not have a job during the survey week, had made efforts to find work within the past four weeks, and were available for work are considered to be unemployed. This also encompasses those waiting to return to a job and those with a job starting within the next 30 days. The survey does not include individuals who have ceased looking for jobs or part-time employees who desire full-time positions.

Why Is This Important?

Employment is a basic need for the survival of most individuals and families. While there will always be some unemployment, it is generally agreed that a low unemployment rate is best for society as a whole. Being jobless brings both financial and emotional stress to individuals and families affected. High unemployment can bring familial discord, an increase in crime, and the need for additional costly social services.

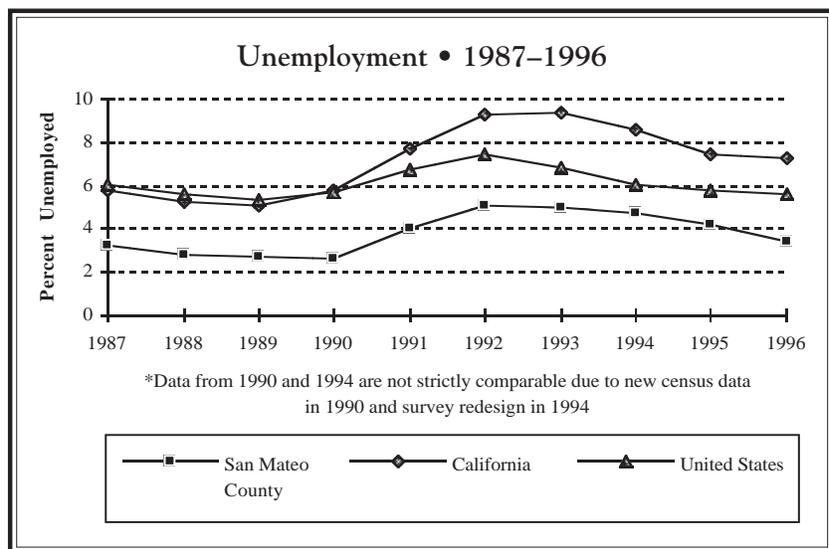
What Was Found?

Consistently lower than the state and the nation, San Mateo County has enjoyed full employment since 1985. The county's unemployment rate was 3.4 percent in 1996. County averages from 1987 to 1996 are 3.2, 2.8, 2.7, 2.6, 4.0, 5.1, 5.0, 4.7, 4.2, and 3.4 percent. Yet, there are dramatic differences in the unemployment rates within

the county. For instance, as of October 1997, Half Moon Bay and San Carlos showed the lowest unemployment rates with 1.5 percent each. By comparison, East Palo Alto and Daly City have the highest unemployment rates, 6.6 and 3.3 percent respectively.

What Is The Trend?

San Mateo County's .8 percent decrease between the 1995 and 1996 unemployment rates constitutes the largest change in the yearly unemployment rate since 1991. The 1996 rate of 3.4 percent remains below California's rate of 7.2 percent and the national rate of 5.3 percent. Despite this year's decrease, the county rate is still higher than the ten-year low of 2.6 in 1990.



Sources: Shawn Armstrong, State of California, Employment Development Department (EDD), Labor Market Information Division. (Data not adjusted for seasonality)

Researchers: Jen Bede, Christina Chen, Linda Shak, Mills High School

NEEDS OF CHILDREN: *Child Care*

What Was Measured?

Measured are the total number of children in need of child care, the total number of children receiving child care outside of their families, the total number of child care slots available, and the cost of child care in San Mateo County.

Why Is This Important?

Affordable child care allows for single parent and families with dual working caretakers to earn a living while feeling secure that their children have good care. Quality child care is essential in maintaining healthy, safe, and well-adjusted children.

What Was Found?

The Child Care Resource and Referral Network reports that in 1997, 66 percent of all children in San Mateo County lived in households in which both parents or the single parent head-of-household worked. This amounted to 81,655 children in need of child care in the county. Of the children needing child care, 27,483 received it outside of the family. Within San Mateo County, there are 769 licensed family child care homes with 5,934 slots and 255 licensed child care centers with 14,035 slots. Hence, the need for child care in the county far exceeds the number of child care slots available.

The average cost for full-time infant care in a licensed child care center is 27 percent higher than the state average, while the average cost for full-time preschooler care is 19 percent higher than the state average. For a child under 2 years of age, the average cost of child care is \$172 per week in a licensed child care center and \$135 per week in a licensed family child care home. The average cost of full-time child care for a child age 2-5 years is \$112 per week in a licensed child care center and \$128 per week in a licensed family child care home.

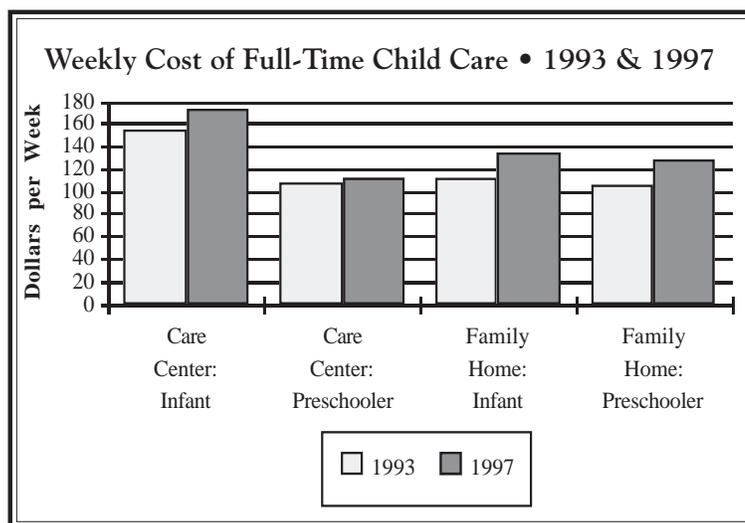
What Is The Trend?

The total number of children in need of child care is 20 percent higher than the state average. This need might be explained by the local high cost of living and the availability of jobs. The increase in demand for child care has been accompanied by a 7 percent decrease in the number of available slots and a 15 percent average increase in the cost of child care.

With continued population growth predicted, the demand and cost of child care can be expected to increase.

Source: California Child Care Resource and Referral Network, 1997 *California Child Care Portfolio*; Child Care Coordinating Council, *Child Care - Update, 1993-1994, A Needs Assessment for San Mateo County*.

Researcher: Menlo College Roteract Club and Thomas Mills



Wouldn't you like to believe that a people who committed to and succeeded in sending the first human to the moon, created an atom bomb in forty-one months during World War II, and led the world in health and information technology could and would tackle and solve their children's problems with the same can-do verve and will?

Marian Wright Edelman

NEEDS OF CHILDREN: *Child Abuse*

What Was Measured?

The number of service referrals for families in which child abuse is present were measured for calendar years 1995 and 1996. Also presented are the number of service referrals for child abuse victims and the types of child abuse that have occurred in San Mateo County during the 1996 fiscal year. It is important to note that the true number of child abuse incidents can not be shown here since an unknown number of cases go unreported.

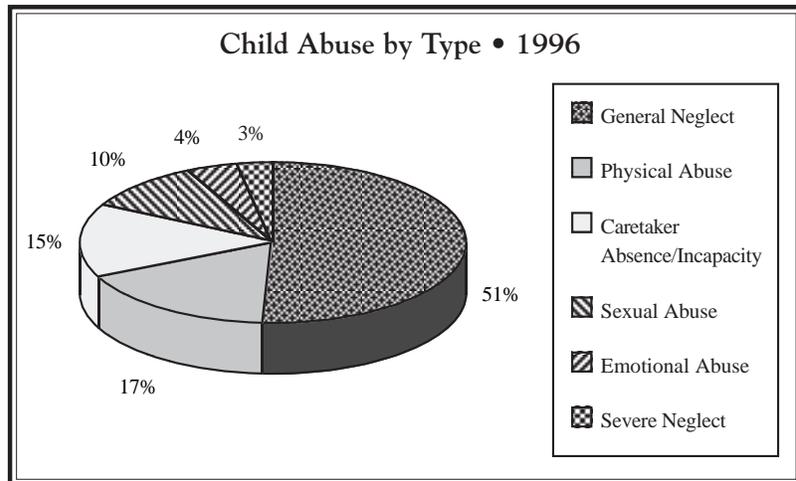
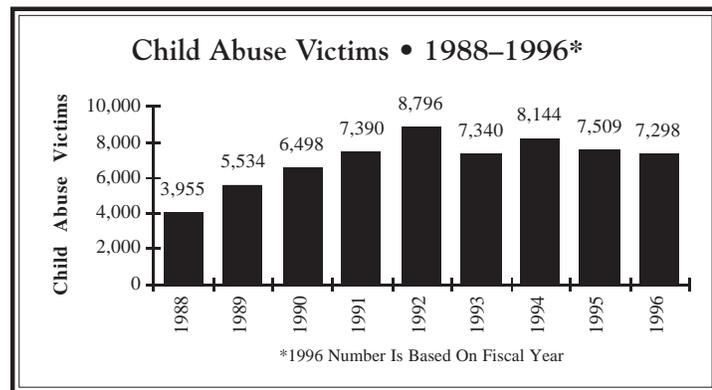
Why Is This Important?

Normal childhood development requires a safe, nurturing environment free of physical or verbal abuse. A sustainable community must monitor the incidence of child abuse and take sufficient measures to prevent further abuse. Intervening early in a child abuse case leads to fewer physical, psychological, and emotional problems in the lives of the children that are affected and helps reduce the continuation of abuse to future generations of children. An increase in the number of child abuse referrals reflects a more volatile community, and therefore, a greater need for child services and early intervention, as well as prevention and education programs for adults.

What Was Found?

The number of families referred to the San Mateo County Child Welfare Services Department for child abuse was

4,747 during calendar year 1995 and 4,415 during calendar year 1996. The number of child abuse victims referred to the county for the 1996 fiscal year was 7,298. General neglect, physical abuse, and caretaker absence and incapacity were the types of child abuse that were cited most often.



In every child who is born, under no matter what circumstances and of no matter what parents, the potentiality of the human race is born again, and in him too, once more and of each of us, our terrific responsibility toward human life: toward the utmost idea of goodness, of the horror of terror, and of God.

James Agee, *Let us Now Praise Famous Men*

What Is The Trend?

From 1988 to 1992 there was a 122 percent increase in the number of overall child abuse victims referred to the county (3,955 to 8,796). However, over the last five years there has been an approximate 17 percent decline in the number of victim referrals (8,796 to 7,298). Between 1995 and 1996 there was a 7 percent decrease in both families and victims referred to the county for child abuse.

Sources: State of California, Health and Welfare Agency, Department of Social Services, *Public Welfare In California, 1995–96 Annual Report*; Mary Ann Tse, San Mateo County Child Welfare Services

Researchers: Menlo College Roteract Club and Thomas Mills

PER PUPIL FUNDING

What Was Measured?

Average expenditures in San Mateo County public schools per annual Average Daily Attendance (ADA) for kindergarten through 12th grade (K–12) are shown for the years 1993–1996. Also shown are the changes in actual revenues and expenditures per annual ADA by school district for the 1994–95 and 1995–96 school years.

Why Is This Important?

We rely on schools to produce good citizens with the basic skills necessary to participate and succeed in our society. The amount of resources we allocate for education shows our commitment to future generations. Adequate funding allows the school districts to provide updated curriculum and maintain competitive salaries for teachers, creating a high quality education system and a positive learning environment.

What Was Found?

Average expenditures per annual ADA for grades K–12 increased to \$4,720 in 1995–96. Between fiscal years 1994–95 and 1995–96, total actual revenues increased 7.5 percent. Elementary school districts increased their expenditures per annual ADA by an average of \$95, while high school districts increased by an average of \$63 and unified school districts increased by an average of \$195. High school districts continued to spend the most money, with average expenditures of \$5,982 per annual ADA, while elementary school districts spent \$4,417, and unified school districts spent \$4,185. Despite a decrease, Woodside spent \$6,827 per pupil, the highest expenditures per annual ADA among elementary schools in San Mateo County during 1995–96. While San Carlos spent the least, with \$3,812 per annual ADA, Laguna Salada, 1994–95's lowest spending school district, increased its expenditures by \$163 per pupil. Among high schools, Sequoia's expenditures per annual ADA were \$6,753, while San Mateo's were \$6,127, and Jefferson's were \$4,805. La Honda Pescadero Unified spent \$5,577 per annual ADA,

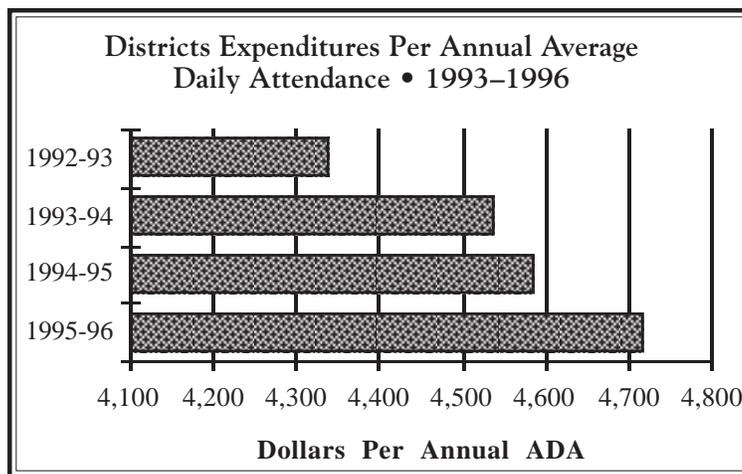
Cabrillo Unified spent \$4,240, and South San Francisco Unified spent \$4,101. Please refer to the appendix for a detailed breakdown by school district.

What Is The Trend?

Since 1992–93, total actual expenditures per annual ADA for San Mateo County public schools increased by 9 percent while total actual revenues have increased 14.6 percent.

In comparison to the 1994–95 expenditures, there is greater parity among the 1995–96 expenditures per annual ADA. The gap between the highest and lowest spending elementary school districts decreased by \$311 per annual ADA, while the gap between the highest and lowest spending unified school districts decreased by \$122 per annual ADA. Only the gap between the highest and lowest spending high school districts increased.

Despite a rise in funding, California ranks 41st in the nation in annual ADA expenditures.



Source: Fiscal and Operational Services Division, San Mateo County Office of Education, 1995–96, 1994–95, and 1993–94 Financial Statistical Report for the School Districts and Community College District of San Mateo County; www.ed-data.k-12.ca.us.

Researcher: Thomas Mills

He will manage the cure best who also foresees what is to happen from the present conditions of the patient.

Hippocrates (ca 460-377 BC)

HIGH SCHOOL DROPOUTS

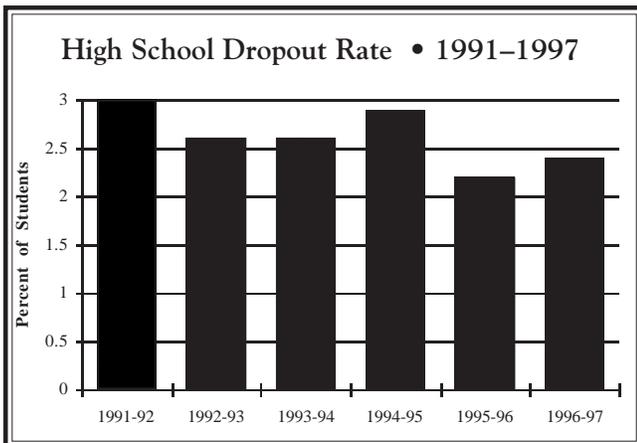
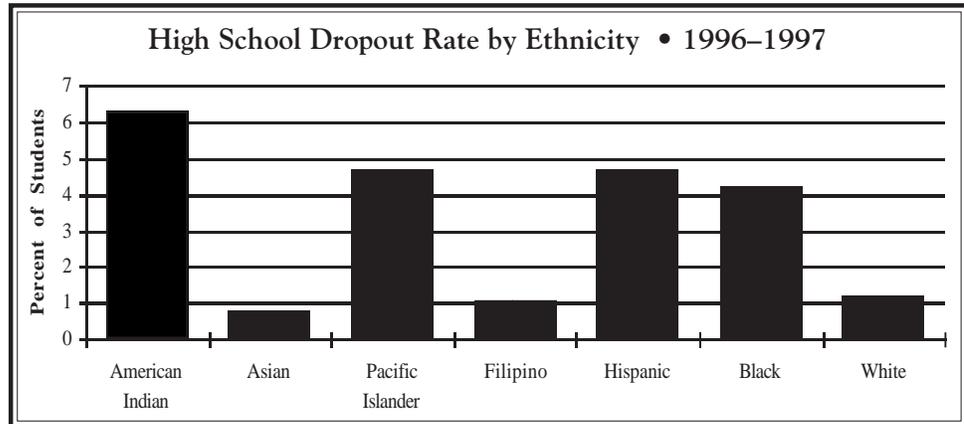
What Was Measured?

The public high school dropout rate in San Mateo County for grades nine through twelve during 1995–96 and 1996–97 is measured. The dropout rate is shown by race, gender, and school district.

Why Is This Important?

Without a high school diploma, and increasingly, a college degree or skilled training, chances for obtaining quality, high-paying jobs are limited. Business leaders have stated that the future needs of county businesses require a highly skilled and educated work force. Without such a local pool, they will seek employees who live elsewhere. This

percent each, African-Americans at 4.2 percent, Whites at 1.2 percent, Filipinos at 1.1 percent, and Asians at .8 percent. Sequoia Union High School District had the highest dropout rate at 5.3 percent, while La Honda/Pescadero Unified had no dropouts in 1996–97.



What Is The Trend?

San Mateo County continues to have a high school dropout rate lower than that of the state. Despite occasional dips and increases, the overall dropout rate remains steady. The dropout rates for Indian/Alaskan Natives, Pacific Islanders, Hispanics and African-Americans are still more than twice the dropout rates of Whites, Filipinos, and Asians.

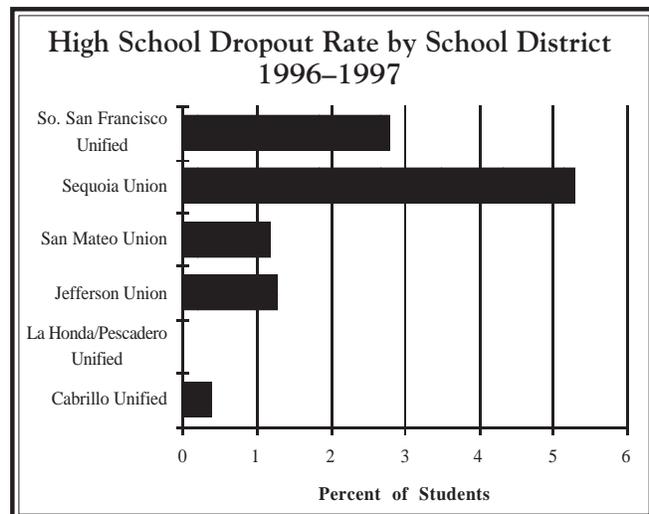
Source: CBEDS Data provided by Jeannie Goodwine, San Mateo County Office of Education, Instructional Services Division.

Researcher: Thomas Mills

will add to commuter trips into and out of the county, increasing congestion and air quality problems. The lack of a qualified work force locally may also be a factor influencing a company's decision to move into or out of the country. Finally, students who do not receive adequate education will be more vulnerable to poverty, homelessness, crime, or substance abuse.

What Was Found?

The high school dropout rate in San Mateo County fell from 2.9 percent in 1994–95 to 2.2 percent in 1995–96 and rose slightly to 2.4 percent in 1996–97. Indian/Alaskan Native students had the highest dropout rate at 6.3 percent during the 1996–97 school year. This was followed by Hispanics and Pacific Islanders at 4.7



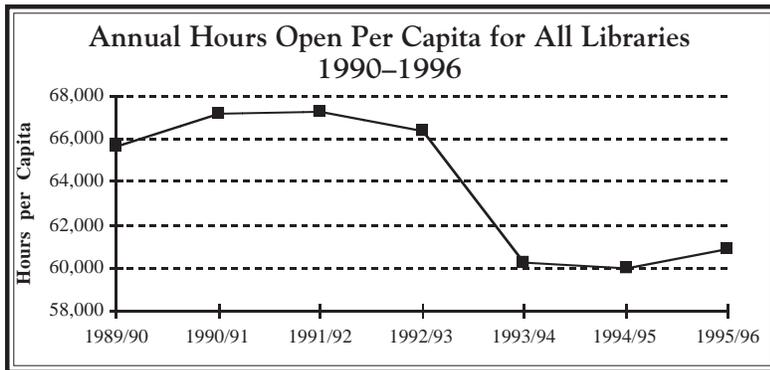
PUBLIC LIBRARY USE

What Was Measured?

Annual measurements include: expenditures per capita; number of hours open to the public per capita; materials circulated per capita; and number of reference questions asked per capita. Figures represent data for the San Mateo County library system, and city libraries in Daly City, San Mateo, Redwood City, South San Francisco, Burlingame, San Bruno, and Menlo Park.

Why Is This Important?

Public library use is an indication of literacy, political interest, business research, education, intellectual curiosity, and general interest in reading, videos, and computers. Libraries are gateways to information for large numbers of people through shared access. They are also an access point to the internet. Library programs aimed at

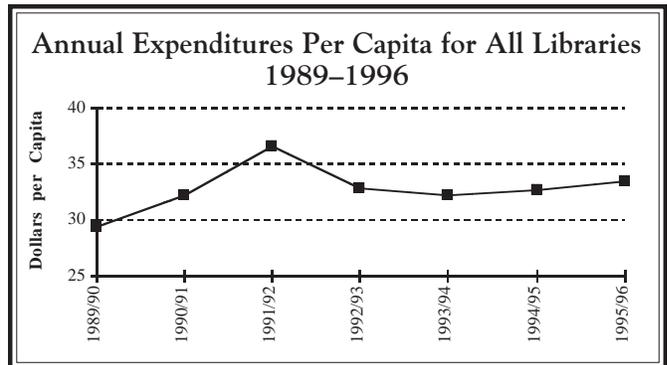


children and adults are cultural assets to our community. Libraries with community rooms provide needed meeting space for county residents. The level of library funding is an indicator of community support for libraries. The circulation per capita and reference questions asked per capita are indicative of library use. The number of hours open indicates library accessibility to the community.

What Was Found?

Library expenditures, hours open, and use vary by library system within the county. The highest total combined annual expenditure for all the library systems in the county was \$36.46 per capita in 1991/92. Annual expenditures then dropped in 1992/93 to \$32.81 per capita. The figures for 1995/96 show a slight upward movement to \$33.44 per capita, but this is still less than the 1991/92 high. Statistics for all the library systems countywide indicate that materials circulation per capita increased 14.7 percent from 1989/90 to 1995/96 while reference questions asked remained relatively steady. The total annual hours open to the public for all libraries countywide dropped 7.3 percent in

1994, indicating a loss of public access time.



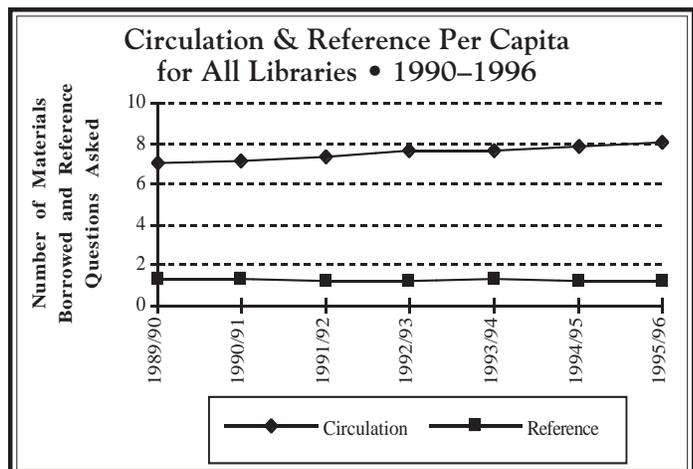
What Is The Trend?

Library use based on materials circulated per capita is higher in the county than in the state as a whole and is steadily increasing. Circulation per capita in 1995/96 was 8.03 in the county compared to 4.7 in the state. Annual expenditures in 1995/96 were also higher per capita in the county (\$33.44) than in the state (\$17.99). Countywide expenditures since 1992/93 have increased, but hours open to the public remain below their 1989/90 level.

In general, all eight library systems in the county are exceeding the state average in funding and use, but some jurisdictions are doing better than others. Expenditures per capita for Burlingame, Redwood City, and Menlo Park libraries are considerably higher than for San Mateo County, the City of San Mateo, South San Francisco, and Daly City which receives the least funding of all libraries.

Sources: *California Library Statistics 1990 - 1997* by Library Development Services Bureau, California State Library, Sacramento.

Researcher: David Crabbe



VOTER PARTICIPATION

What Was Measured?

Three county-wide measurements of voter participation are included for the years 1990–1997: the percent of the adult population that is registered to vote; the percent of registered voters that actually voted; and the percent of the adult population that actually voted. It should be noted that “adults” include all adults whether they are eligible to vote or not.

In addition, the percent of registered voters who actually voted in the 1996 general election and the off-year consolidated vote of 1997 is given for each city.

Why Is This Important?

In a sustainable society, citizens participate in making decisions about their communities. A true democracy is not working if too few people are engaged in the process. High voter participation indicates that citizens believe in their political and social institutions and believe that their vote is important.

What Was Found?

Since 1990, the percentage of those old enough to vote who actually did vote is below 50 percent, except for the 1992 presidential general election when 54 percent voted. In the 1996 presidential general election, only 47 percent of the adult population voted. Voter participation in the non-presidential elections (primaries and off-year elections) range from 13 to 19 percent.

In most years, more than one-third of our adult population is not registered. The percent of those registered to vote who actually voted declined considerably for the primaries, and even more so for off-year elections.

In the individual cities of the county, 51 percent to 81 percent of registered voters voted in the 1996 general election. The percentage range in the off-year consolidated election in 1997 is from 6 percent to 44 percent.

What Is The Trend?

There is a consistency of voter turnout over the last seven years for each type of election.

Participation in general elections, in which the president, congressional, and state government

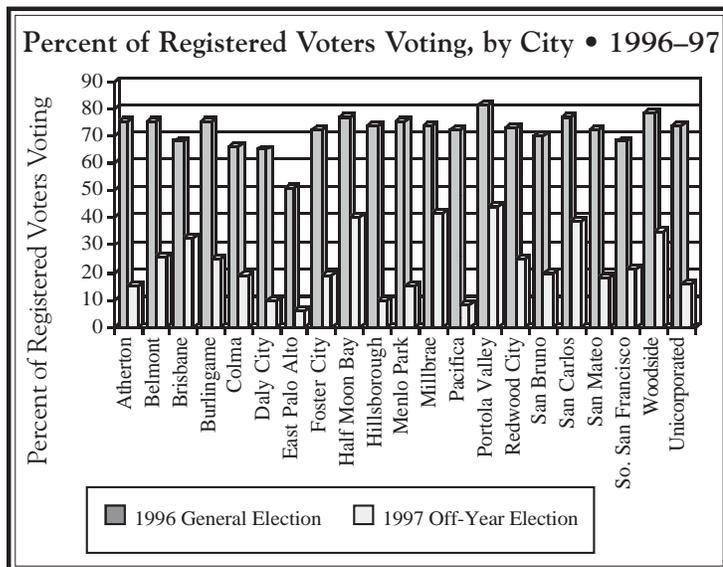
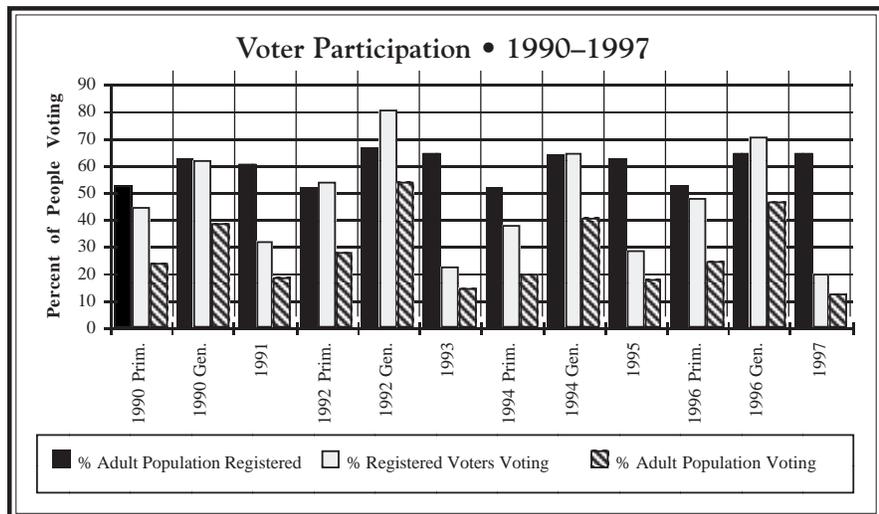
officials are elected, is traditionally higher than participation in primaries and off-year elections when school board members, city council members, special district board members, and county and city measures are decided.

The national voter participation level for registered voters for the 1992 general election was 51 percent, while San Mateo County’s level of voter participation was 54 percent. The national voter participation level for registered voters is not yet available for the 1996 general election.

The most significant trend is that participation is low for all elections, but especially low for off-year elections.

Sources: CA State Dept. of Finance, Demographic Research Unit; *San Mateo County Statement of Vote* (for each election); *Sales & Marketing Management, Survey of Buying Power Issues; Statistical Abstract of the U.S.*, 1995.

Researcher: Marcia Pagels



VOLUNTEERISM

What Was Measured?

Six measurements of volunteerism in San Mateo County were tracked. The first measures the percent of the county's population who volunteer with agencies that are registered with the Volunteer Center of San Mateo County (VC). Over 400 agencies are registered with the VC.

The second measurement tracks the number of people who volunteered for Coastal Cleanup Day in San Mateo County from 1991 to 1997, a once-a-year activity. The third measurement is of the number of people who volunteered in 1996 to work in the county's park system as a docent, aide, or maintenance person. These volunteers work on an on-going basis giving many hours of service.

The final three measurements show the number of volunteers, volunteer hours, and sites cleaned by the City of San Mateo's Graffiti Abatement Program for 1997. This new program attracts volunteers from all over San Mateo County.

The measurements offered here are a very small sample because tracking volunteerism is very difficult. First, the places where volunteers work are so many and so varied—schools, hospitals, museums, theater groups, environmental groups, and agencies and service groups of many kinds. In most cases, agencies do their own recruiting for volunteers, and they ask the VC for assistance for special occasions or additional help. Secondly, many agencies do not collect statistical data on volunteerism.

Why Is This Important?

Inequities will always exist in any community; some people are disabled, sick, or in need of assistance of one kind or another. In a sustainable society the community has a support system in place to assure that the basic needs of all citizens are met. Besides assuring that basic needs are met, volunteers add to the quality of our lives by serving the community in other ways—from being a museum docent to aiding in a classroom or cleaning a beach. Lastly, volunteers are increasingly needed as public funding for support agencies decreases, diminishing their staffing capacity.

What Was Found?

The VC referred or matched 3,904 volunteers in 1996. Since they recruit approximately 20 percent of all volunteers for agencies who use the VC, the volunteer workforce numbers are approximately 19,520. The percent of the population who volunteered using these VC estimates is 2.8 percent.

VC volunteers are of all ages and ethnicities, but more than twice as many women as men volunteered. The number of student volunteers is increasing. In 1996, 39 percent were students as compared to 38 percent who were employed full-time.

The number of workers on Coastal Cleanup Day has wavered over the years of collection, but was up in 1997. The numbers of volunteers for Coastal Cleanup Day in San Mateo County from 1991 to 1997 were as follows: 1,238, 824, 1,257, 1,050, 1,208, 1,255, and 1,310. The number of people who volunteered with San Mateo County Parks and Recreation increased sharply from 495 in 1996 to 1,309 in 1997. There also were 116 volunteers for the City of San Mateo's Graffiti Abatement Program in 1997. The Graffiti Abatement volunteers worked 433 hours and cleaned 129 sites in San Mateo.

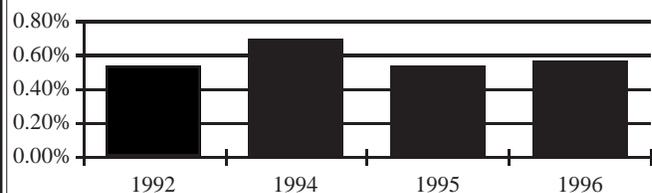
What Is The Trend?

Because collection of data for four of these measurements is new, no trend can be determined. No figures were found for volunteerism at the national level.

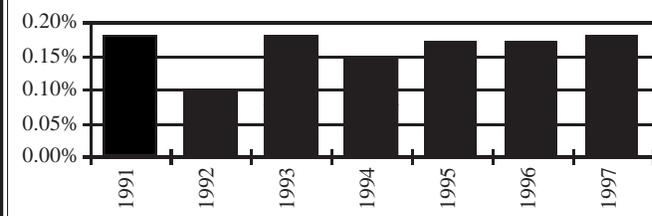
Sources: Cathy Maupin, Ex. Dir. of the Volunteer Center of San Mateo County; Eben Schwartz of the Sierra Club; Lynne Fritz of the San Mateo County Parks and Recreation Dept.; The *San Mateo County Parks Volunteer Program 1997 Annual Report*; John Radebold, Program Coordinator, City of San Mateo Graffiti Abatement Program, Quarterly Reports, April-June, July, September, October-December, 1997; CA Dept. of Finance, Demographic Research Unit, Sacramento.

Researchers: Marcia Pagels and Thomas Mills

Percent of the Population Referred to Other Agencies by the Volunteer Center • 1992–1996



Percent of Population Who Volunteered For Coastal Cleanup Day • 1991–1997



CITY PARKS and OPEN SPACE

What Was Measured?

All 20 cities in San Mateo County were sent a survey regarding city parks and open space. Three questions were asked: 1) How many acres of developed park lands are within your city's boundaries? (Does not include school playgrounds, undeveloped lands, open space, watershed lands, or adjacent county and state parks). 2) How many acres of open space are within your city's boundaries? (Does not include school playgrounds, undeveloped lands, developed city parks, watershed lands, or adjacent county or state parks). 3) Is your city adjacent to county park lands, state park lands, or watershed lands?

"Developed park lands" and "open space" were not defined in the survey. The objective was to gain an overall sense of the amount of outdoor recreation and wilderness space existing in each city.

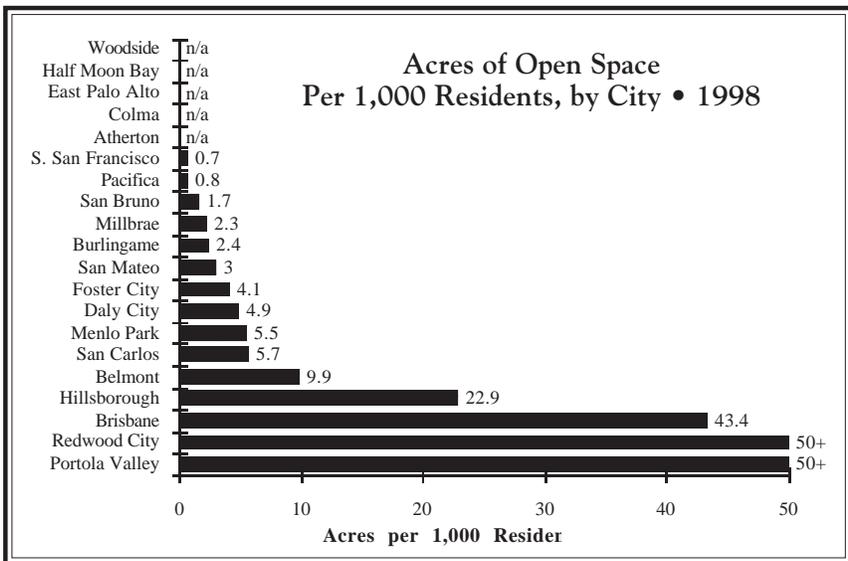
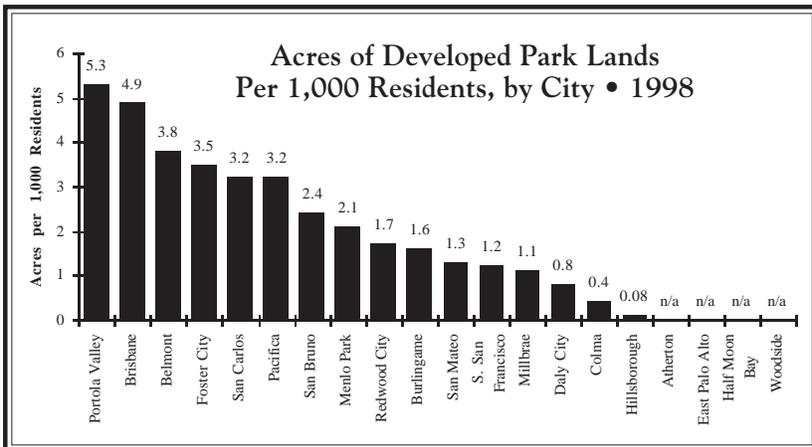
Why Is This Important?

The nearby availability of areas for recreation and enjoying nature add to our quality of life. Recreation helps build strong bodies, while closeness to nature gives us a grounding in who and what we are. In a sustainable community, park areas and open space need to be accessible by biking, walking, or using public transit.

What Was Found?

In 1996, the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) stopped recommending a certain number of acres of developed park lands per 1,000 residents per city. According to NRPA, the deletion of the standard "reflects a conviction that each community must shape basic facility standards and park classifications or definitions to fit individual circumstances." Prior to 1996, the standard was 6 to 10.5 acres per 1,000 residents per city.

Among the 15 cities which responded to the survey, the number of acres of developed park lands per 1,000 residents ranged from .08 to 5.3. Hillsborough had the least number of acres of developed park lands and Portola Valley had the most. The number of acres of open space per 1,000 residents ranged from .7 to 558. South San Francisco had the least number of acres of



open space per 1,000 residents and Portola Valley had the most. With the exception of Portola Valley, all cities responding to the survey reported that they are adjacent to county park lands, state park lands, or watershed lands.

What Is The Trend?

NRPA's deletion of national standards for the number of developed park lands per 1,000 residents per city reflects the need to meet the recreational interests of communities through alternative means. It also illustrates the need for some cities to change the traditional definition of what constitutes a park. This might explain why Portola Valley scored very low in the 1996 survey, but very high in the 1997 survey. Other reported acreages may be significantly different from the 1996 survey because of the separation of "open space" from the definition of "developed park lands" in the 1997 survey.

Sources: Acreage figures came from each city; National Recreation and Park Association, *Park, Recreation, Open Space and Greenway Guidelines*, 1996.

Researcher: Thomas Mills

LAND USE

What Was Measured?

The 1997 report focused on two trends: percent of land devoted to urban and rural land uses, and density of housing and jobs on residential and commercial lands. This year various land use trends and the number of acres of non-urban open space were measured.

	'90 Acres	% '90	'95 Acres	% '95
Residential	47,962	65.3	48,449	65.2
Residential/Commercial	455	0.6	534	0.7
Commercial	5,577	7.6	5,656	7.7
Commercial/Industrial	440	0.6	766	1.0
Industrial	3,570	4.9	3,598	4.8
Education	3,096	4.2	3,079	4.1
Hospitals	171	0.2	171	0.2
Public Institutions	358	0.5	358	0.5
Military	168	0.2	148	0.2
Infrastructure*	6,380	8.7	6,447	8.7
Urban Open Space**	5,278	7.2	5,127	6.9
Total	73,455	100.0	74,333	100.0

*Includes major highways, railways, airports, power lines, and wastewater treatment plants.
 **Includes intensive areas of recreation which cover a minimum of one hectare (2.4 acres), including golf courses, tennis courts, and drive-in theaters.

Why Is This Important?

A healthy and sustainable community provides for all of the community's needs—housing, business, services, industry, agriculture, and open space for recreation and habitat preservation. To accomplish this, a county must provide for a balance of land uses.

Planners use land use plans and zoning to accomplish this balance and to encourage a diverse economic base. The county's natural resources, recreational opportunities, and quality of life can be protected through a land

	Acres	% Non-Urban Acres
Agriculture	18,441	8.7
Rangeland	96,253	45.6
Wetlands	8,211	3.9
Forest	85,225	40.4
Beaches	257	0.1
Other	2,619	1.3
Total	211,006	100.0
Total Protected From Development	81,797	38.8

Source: The Trail Center, 1997

use plan that preserves rural and open spaces. Until recently, land use planners preferred to segregate urban

	1990	1995	%change
Urban	73,455	74,333	1.1
Rural	211,884	211,006	-0.4

land uses so that housing was located away from commercial areas, and jobs from where people live. From a sustainability perspective, however, it makes more sense to locate housing near jobs and transportation. This helps reduce congestion, air and water pollution, and loss of personal time.

Similarly, infill development—locating new housing, commercial services, and community amenities within existing urban areas instead of developing in the outskirts—offers a chance to revitalize cities and protect surrounding rural, agricultural, and open space lands. To be sustainable, infill development should offer a mix of residential and commercial activity rather than “big box” retail development that tends to attract automobile traffic.

Finally, from a long-term perspective, well-planned conversion of land uses through the general plan process, as opposed to developer-requested zoning change, is best for a community striving for sustainability.

	Acres	% by Owner
Federal (GGNRA)	5,650	7
State Parks	17,940	22
Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District (San Mateo County holdings)	15,450	19
San Mateo County	14,119	17
San Francisco Water Department*	23,000	28
Peninsula Open Space Trust	5,638	7
Total	81,797	100

*Closed to most public use.

What Was Found?

The vast majority of urban land in the county is located in eastern and northern San Mateo County. During the period between 1990 and 1995, over 1,000 acres of rural land and urban open space gave way to residential, commercial, and industrial development. During the same period conservation groups in the county protected well over 1,000 acres of forest and rangeland from development. Furthermore, park and conservation districts have protected over 81,500 acres of open space in the county.

continued

LAND USE, continued

What is the Trend?

With much of San Mateo County's land either built out or protected, infill development has become a necessity. However, there is no agreement as to how much land is available for infill development. While many believe that there is little land available for infill development, the San Mateo County Economic Development Association reports that there is available land along the eastern transportation corridors (Highway 101 and the CalTrain corridor).

Sources: Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG); 1990 Census; Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District, 1997; Peninsula Open Space Trust; The Trail Center, updated *Peninsula*

New Urban Development • 1990–95			
Where did the land come from?		What was it used for?	
From	Acres	Used For	Acres
Rural	878	Residential	487
Urban Open Space	151	Residential/Commercial	79
Military	20	Commercial	79
Education	17	Commercial/Industrial	326
		Industrial	28
		Infrastructure	67
Total	1,066	Total	1,066

Source: ABAG Existing Land Use Data for Bay Area Counties & Cities, 1990 & 1995

Parklands: A Guide to Outdoor Recreation in Santa Clara, San Mateo, Santa Cruz & San Francisco Counties, 1992; SAMCEDA

Researcher: Christine Shirley, Urban Watershed Project

AGRICULTURE and FORESTRY

What Was Measured?

The 1996 total acreage of land used for agriculture and floriculture, the 1996 total gross production value, change in production of specific crops, the value of harvested timber, and change in the number of organic farms and community supported agriculture efforts were measured.

Why Is This Important?

Food brought from far away requires additional energy for transport and loses freshness and nutritional value. In addition, agriculture contributes to a diverse economic base and a perception of open space, while tilled acreage contributes to an improved micro-climate. Communities that value locally-grown products support retaining and protecting agricultural land from residential and industrial development.

What Was Found?

Total agriculture and floriculture acreage increased by 48 acres in 1996. Outdoor grown agriculture and floriculture acreage decreased by 254 acres (less than 1 percent) to 38,426 acres, while space for indoor grown floral and nursery crops increased by 1,380,200 square feet (9 percent) to 16,802,000 square feet or 302 acres. The 1996 total gross production value of agricultural products in San Mateo County increased by 5 percent from the previous year to \$206,510,000. Gross agricultural revenues coming from indoor and outdoor grown floral and nursery crops comprised 82 percent of the total gross production value, while revenues coming from livestock, forest products, fruit, nut, vegetable, and field crops comprised 18 percent of the total gross production value. The production level for artichokes decreased due to heavy spring rains, while the production levels for Brussels sprouts, snap beans, and several floral and nursery crops increased. Also, the total value and the total board feet of harvested timber increased by more

than 200 percent between 1995 and 1996.

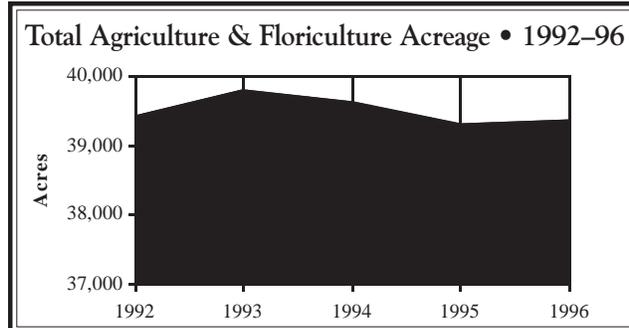
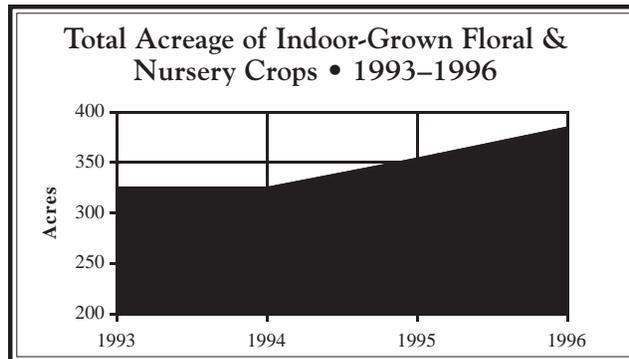
Since 1991, the number of organic farms in the San Mateo County increased from 3 to 12 and reside on 97 acres. The amount of Community Supported Agriculture (CSA), the practice of selling farming shares, remains steady at one farm.

What Is The Trend?

Although outdoor grown agriculture remained the same, indoor grown agriculture is increasing. Total gross production value and CSA in the county remained steady, while the number of organic farms quadrupled.

Source: 1994, 1995, 1996 *Agricultural Crop Report*, San Mateo County Department of Agriculture/Weights and Measures.

Researchers: Menlo College Roteract Club and Thomas Mills



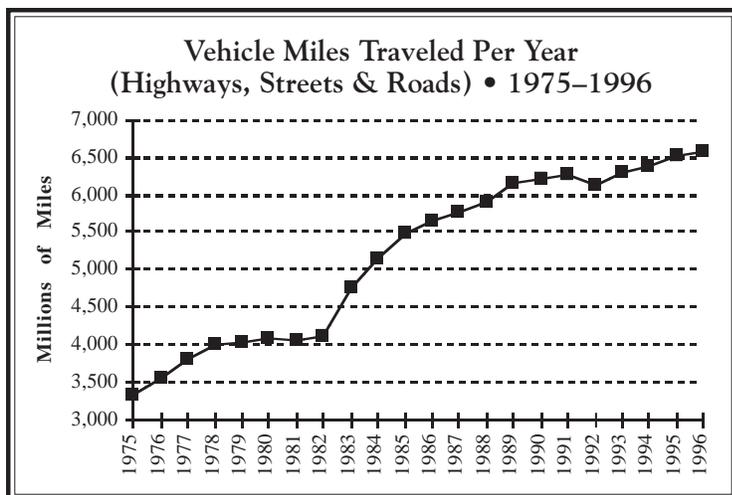
TRANSPORTATION

What Was Measured?

Measurements include: estimated highway vehicle miles traveled (VMT) per year within the county; estimated number of commute trips per day into, out of, and within the county; estimated number of commute trips per day by travel mode; estimated congestion delay on county freeways; annual bus and train ridership; and level of service (LOS) on selected roadway segments.

Why Is This Important?

Motor vehicles generate emissions and toxic wastes, such as oil and grease, asbestos from brake linings, and rubber particles from tires, creating air, water, and noise pollution. Fossil fuels are non-renewable resources. Roads take up valuable land and reduce habitat for wildlife. An increase in the vehicle miles traveled reflects increased use of resources; decreased ability to work, live and participate in the neighborhood or local community; more time spent driving from place to place; and less time spent with family and friends. Increased VMT combined with a reduced level of service contributes to traffic congestion. This puts pressure on government to widen existing roadways and reconstruct interchanges. Roadway construction increases the cost of community infrastructure. A decrease in VMT would reflect reduced travel distances and increased use of less polluting alternatives to

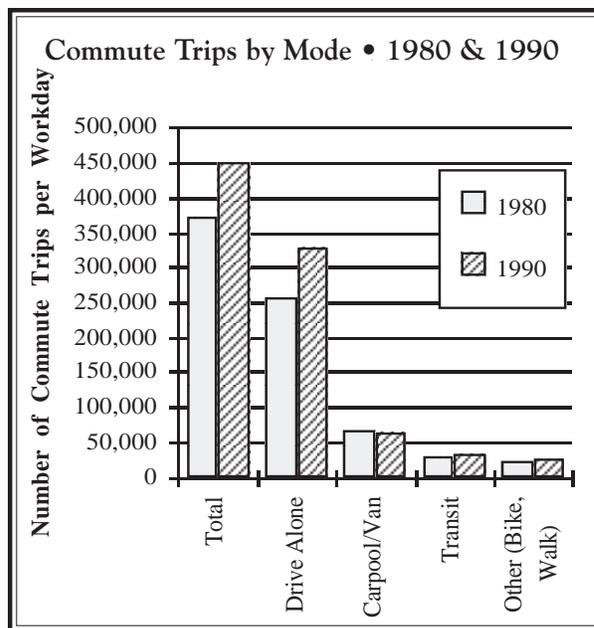


driving (walking, biking, work-at-home, transit).

What Was Found?

Estimated VMT increased 98 percent from 1975 to 1996. Estimated daily hours of congestion delay on county freeways increased 500 percent from 1994 to

1996. Caltrans attributes much of this dramatic rise to extensive roadway construction in the county during the time period, and expects congestion delay to drop back down to more reasonable levels after construction is complete. Although numerous road improvements have occurred over the years, increases in freeway congestion remain a recurring problem.

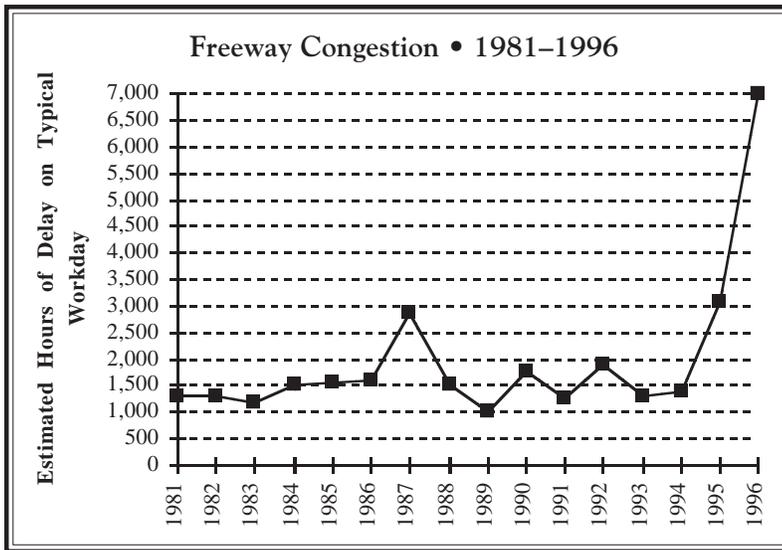


The number of commuters driving alone to and from work increased from 69 percent in 1981 to 73 percent in 1994 while total use of alternative modes of travel has dropped from 31 percent to 27 percent. The number of people working at home increased over 100 percent from 1980 to 1990, but work-at-home represents only 2 percent of county workers.

Of the total commute trips on county streets and highways in 1990, only 45 percent were within the county, while 55 percent were trips to or from adjacent counties. This is a symptom of a serious jobs-housing imbalance in the county where employees are unable to, or choose not to, live in the communities in which they work.

In 1996, SAMTRANS carried 18,451,525 passengers, CalTrain carried 3,930,679 passengers, and BART (Colma and Daly City stations only) carried 6,920,000 passengers in the county. There are 29 employee shuttles travelling between BART and CalTrain

continued



stations and employment centers. Yet, all forms of transit comprised a small percentage of overall trips.

The level of service (LOS) on county roadways from 1990 to 1996 has deteriorated on almost all the measured county roadway segments. Level of service is measured by the letters “A” through “F” with “A” representing free-flowing traffic and “F” virtual gridlock. Measured roadways include portions of Routes 1, 35, 82, 84, 92, 101, 109, 114, 280, 380, Mission Street, Geneva Avenue, and Bayshore Boulevard. LOS on most of these roadways was classified

either “D” or “E” indicating a strong trend toward gridlock.

What Is The Trend?

The number of motor vehicles on county roads is continuing to increase, and freeway congestion remains a problem with continuing roadway improvements being offset by a chronic jobs-housing imbalance and greater reliance on the single-occupancy vehicle for commuting. Alternative modes of travel are unable to serve the region efficiently because housing, employment centers, shopping areas, and community buildings are located in scattered geographic locations; thus the use of alternative, less polluting,

modes of travel is gradually decreasing as a percentage of overall trips. Without changes in land use, employment patterns, housing affordability, and vehicle use habits, transportation will continue to be a problem in the county, absorbing large financial resources for little real mobility gain.

Sources: April 1994 draft of the *San Mateo County Countywide Transportation Plan*; Caltrans, *Travel and Related Factors in California*, 1996; draft 1997 *San Mateo County Congestion Management Program*; SAMTRANS, *Annual Report*; SAMCEDA

Researcher: David Crabbe

What kind of system would be ecologically sustainable? The answer is simple—A system whose structure respects the limits, the carrying capacity, of natural systems. A sustainable economy is one powered by renewable energy sources. It is also a reuse/recycle economy. In its structure, it emulates nature, where one organism’s waste is another’s sustenance . . . Just as an aircraft must satisfy the principles of aerodynamics if it is to fly, so must an economy satisfy the principles of ecology if it is to endure . . .

Recognizing the limits of natural systems is often seen as a call for no growth, but the issue is not growth versus no growth. The question is, what kind of growth? And where? Growth based on the use of renewable energy may be able to continue for some time, while that based on fossil fuels is ultimately limited by the remaining reserves, but more immediately, by potentially unacceptable climate disruption. Similarly, a reuse/recycle economy can grow much larger than a throwaway economy . . .

Worldwatch Institute 1998 *State of the World* report

QUALITY OF DRINKING WATER

What Was Measured?

The last eight years of water quality reports for the San Francisco Water Department (SFWD) were reviewed. The SFWD supplies nearly all of San Mateo County with potable water and monitors 65 water quality attributes. These attributes fall into the following categories: clarity, microbiology, organic chemicals, inorganic chemicals, radionuclides, and additional constituents. The state and federal governments assign a maximum contaminant level for many of the chemical and biological pollutants found in water. Because of the health risks associated with lead and copper ingestion, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) places special emphasis on the monitoring of lead and copper in drinking water. Levels of trihalomethanes (THMs), methy tertiary butyl ether (MTBE), copper, and lead are shown in the graph.

Ground well water supplies a small percentage of the county's water and was not measured.

Why Is This Important?

The quality of drinking water is a major indicator of environmental health. Water borne diseases can become epidemic in communities with contaminated water supplies. Contaminated water may also lead to birth defects, infant mortality and increased cancer rates, along with other systemic ailments.

What Was Found?

The contamination data show that the drinking water delivered to residents and businesses in San Mateo County is essentially pollutant free. Approximately 90 percent of the water provided for the county by the SFWD comes from high altitude Sierra Nevada snowmelt in Yosemite National Park. The Hetch Hetchy

reservoir, protected by the National Park Service, holds the water until it is needed. SFWD releases the water for delivery to the Bay Area through pipelines and tunnels.

Of the 21 organic chemicals monitored, only THMs appeared at levels approaching the standard maximum level. The average for the entire year, though, was only 32 percent of the maximum contaminant level. THMs are present due to the chlorination process used to eliminate bacteria and other micro-organisms from drinking water — a process mandated by California law.

The federal government has not yet set a standard for MTBE levels in the public drinking supply. Oxygenates such as MTBE were mandated because they help gasoline burn cleaner. However, new studies indicate that the chemical is a neurotoxin and possibly carcinogenic. As a result of leaky underground gasoline storage tanks, MTBE has already significantly contaminated the water supplies of several California communities. Because the chemical is highly soluble in water, cleanup is proving to be difficult.

State and federal officials have recently lowered the advisory level at which consumers can smell and taste MTBE in water to five parts per billion (ppb). This advisory serves only as a warning level, not a standard maximum level, for water managers. The level of MTBE detected in the San Francisco Water System is below 0.5 ppb.

The average level of copper for the year was one ppb, well below the standard maximum contaminant level of 1000 ppb. Lead concentrations were also well within established limits. The measurements averaged less than 1 ppb, compared to the maximum contaminant level set at 15 ppb.

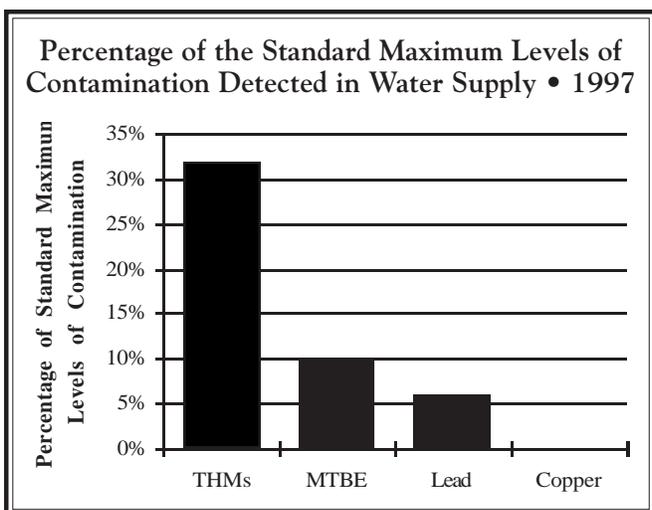
Though no maximum standard is mandated, SFWD has conducted a regular monitoring program to provide data on the occurrence of *Cryptosporidium* since 1990. This pathogenic organism lives in natural fresh waters and can cause a diarrheal disease called cryptosporidiosis. Healthy people are normally not at risk of infection; however, the disease can be life-threatening to immuno-compromised individuals such as chemotherapy patients, transplant recipients, and those with AIDS.

What Is The Trend?

Water quality over the last eight years has varied little and remains excellent.

Sources: San Francisco Public Utilities Commission, 1997 *Water Quality Report*; Carlsen, William. "Boxer Urges Phaseout of Gas Additive: Health hazards linked to MTBE", *The San Francisco Chronicle*, 10 December 1997, page A1.

Researcher: Susan Swift



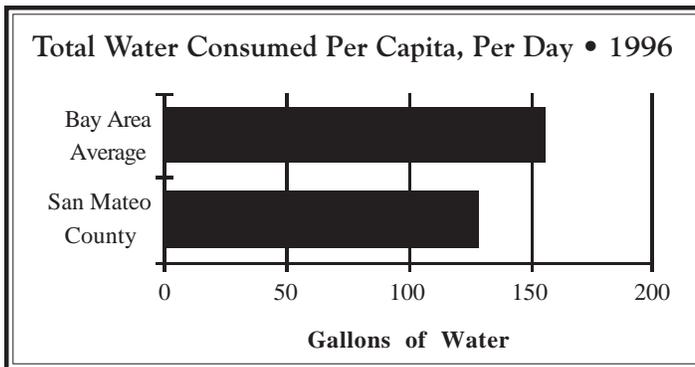
WATER CONSUMPTION

What Was Measured?

Every year, the Bay Area Water Users Association (BAWUA) measures the total volume of drinkable water consumed by residents and businesses in San Mateo County. From the BAWUA figures, a total per capita consumption is calculated. Only water provided by water retailers is included in these calculations; individuals and firms using recycled or reclaimed water sources or private wells are not included in this study.

Why Is This Important?

Many people take drinking water for granted because it is in seemingly endless supply. Approximately 90 percent of San Mateo County's water comes from the Hetch Hetchy Reservoir which is fed by snowpack from the Sierra Nevada. The other 10 percent of the county's water is supplied by a fresh water aquifer, a natural water deposit that forms due to rain

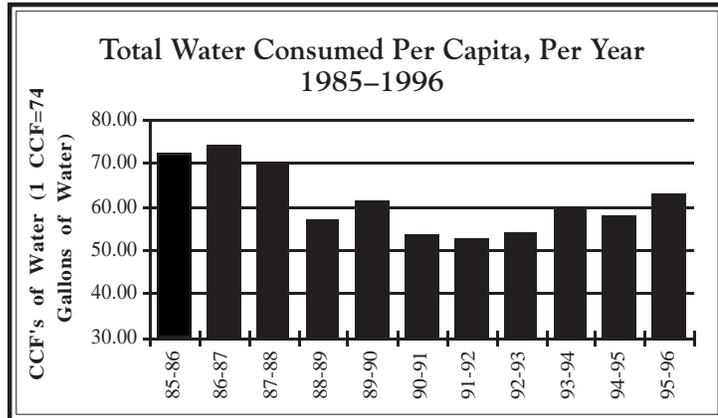


percolation through the soil. Water is constantly drawn from the underground supply but is not replaced at the same rate. Precipitation levels in both the Sierra Nevada and the county impact the amount of water available to county residents. Another factor which impacts fresh water renewal is surface pavement, which collects rain and directs it into the bay, breaking the chain of aquifer replenishment. With an expanding population and increased demands on our finite water supply, water conservation is necessary for a community to be sustainable.

What Was Found?

In times of drought, individuals tend to practice better water conservation, resulting in less water consumption on average. A drought from 1987 to 1993 encouraged San Mateo County citizens to lower their annual water consumption to about 60 CCFs per year or 122.9

gallons per day (1 CCF= 748 gallons). However, when precipitation levels returned to normal the former levels of consumption returned as well; this is known as a "drought rebound." The 1995-96 level of per capita consumption was 63 CCF per year or 128.3 gallons per



day. This represents a 5 percent increase in water consumption since 1993. Despite the increase in water consumption, San Mateo County's per capita, per day average is still 28.2 gallons below the Bay Area per capita, per day average of 156.5 gallons.

What Is The Trend?

Because rainfall has a reverse relationship with amounts of water conserved (more rain, less conservation), we can expect consumption levels to increase in the following year because of anticipated heavy winter rains. The expected increase may be impacted by present conservation education and incentive programs already in place in the county.

Sources: Bay Area Water Users Association, *Annual Survey 1995-96*

Researcher: Adam Messner, Community Service Writing Project, Stanford University

*We cannot exempt use from care.
There is simply nothing in
Creation that does not matter.*

Wendell Berry, poet and farmer, "The Obligation of Care," article in *Sierra*, September/October, 1995

AIR QUALITY

What Was Measured?

In order to determine if the Bay Area is in compliance with state and federal air quality standards, the Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQD) measures five pollutants. The first is ozone, or tri-atomic oxygen. Ozone is best known as a beneficial layer in the upper stratosphere which protects the earth from damaging ultra-violet rays; however when present at lower levels, ozone can be an irritant to eyes and lungs. Secondly, carbon monoxide is measured. Carbon monoxide is a byproduct of the combustion of gasoline. Suspended particle material is another important indicator of air quality. It is most commonly measured as PM10 (particulate matter larger than 10 microns). PM10 is composed of dust, ash and smoke. Smoke itself is composed of carbon and other products of incomplete combustion. PM10 is the most telling indicator of air quality. The last two pollutants measured are nitrogen dioxide and sulfur dioxide, both toxic molecules. In order to make measurement easy, pollutants are gauged according to the amount of days

Why Is This Important?

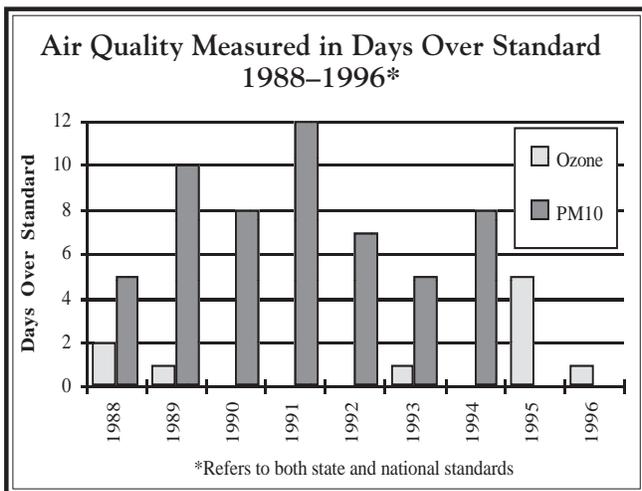
Clean air is an important aspect of an ecologically sustainable environment. Respiratory illnesses such as asthma have risen exponentially in the last decade, especially for children. Many experts attribute this rise to the increase in air pollution. Besides adversely affecting people's health, air pollution affects the environment. Plants rely on sunlight and carbon dioxide to produce energy. If the air isn't pure enough, a plant can't produce enough energy, and its oxygen production decreases. Air quality is a significant indicator of the overall health of a community. Clean air is a quality which is desirable for prospective residents and businesses.

What Was Found?

From 1995 to 1996, carbon monoxide, nitrogen dioxide, sulfur dioxide and PM10 did not exceed California's standards. However in 1995, DOS for ozone was five days, up from zero days in 1994. This number dropped in 1996, when the DOS was only one day.

What Is The Trend?

The results found in the past two years of measurement are promising. Four out of the five pollutants, carbon monoxide, nitrogen dioxide, sulfur dioxide and PM10 have not exceeded the state's standards. The fact that DOS for PM10 was zero from 1995 to 1996 is especially good because PM10 is major air pollutant. While DOS for ozone rose from zero days to five days from 1994 to 1995, it fell again to one day in 1996. If continued, this decline will mean a DOS of zero within a year. Although, present and projected improvements illustrate a steady rise in air quality, it is speculated that weather conditions transport much of the locally generated air pollution away from the Bay Area.



they exceed either state or national standards. "Days Over Standard" (DOS) is the unit which will be used in this report.

Source: Bay Area Air Quality Management District

Researcher: Hilary Gallogly, Community Service Writing Project, Stanford University

SOLID WASTE

What Was Measured?

Shown is the tonnage of solid waste that was disposed into landfills in San Mateo County for 1990, 1996, and the first quarter of 1997. Also shown are the per city, per capita disposal rates and the disposal and diversion (recycling and composting) rates by category. Lastly, the countywide diversion rates are presented for 1990 and 1992.

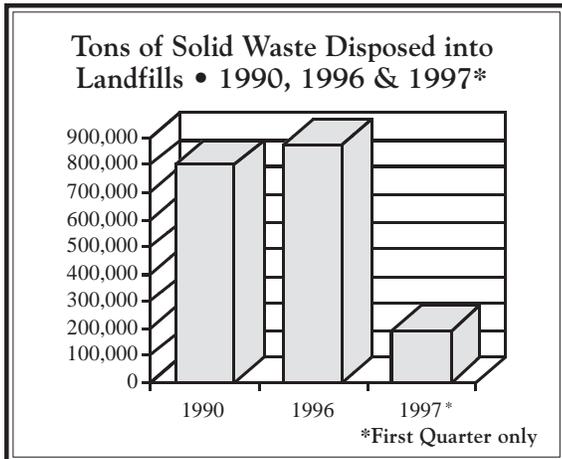
Why Is This Important?

Landfill sites around the state are nearing capacity. In fact, the two largest landfill sites in San Mateo County, the Ox Mountain site and the Hillside site, will be filled within the next 20 years. As landfill sites reach capacity, new land will be needed to store San Mateo County's refuse. Landfills threaten water quality, limit the amount

SOLID WASTE, continued

of open space available to the public, and may impact the value of nearby homes and businesses.

A sustainable community looks to reduce the amount of waste it generates, rather than increase the number of sites for solid waste disposal. In 1990, the California Legislature passed Assembly Bill 939 (AB



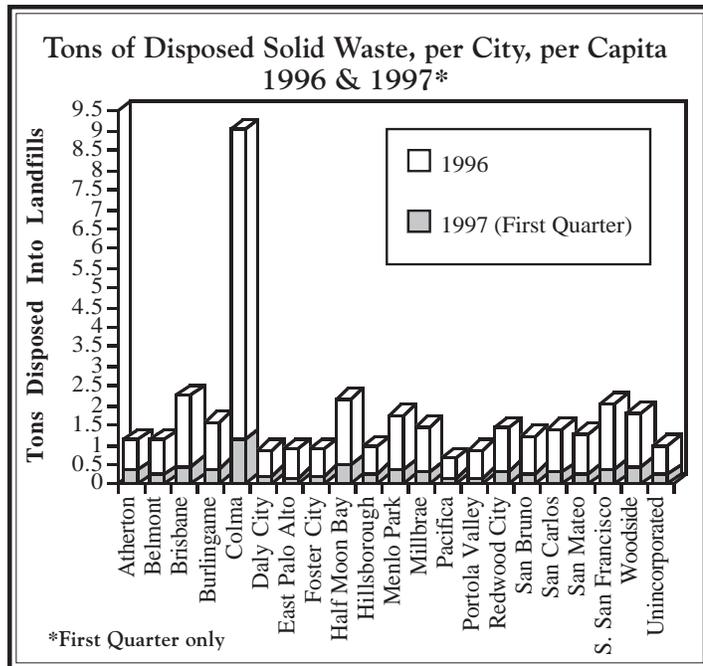
939), which aims to reduce by 50 percent the amount of solid waste that cities and counties send to landfills by the year 2000. The goal can best be achieved through the reduction of the amount of waste generated and increased recycling, composting, and reuse of goods and materials.

What Was Found?

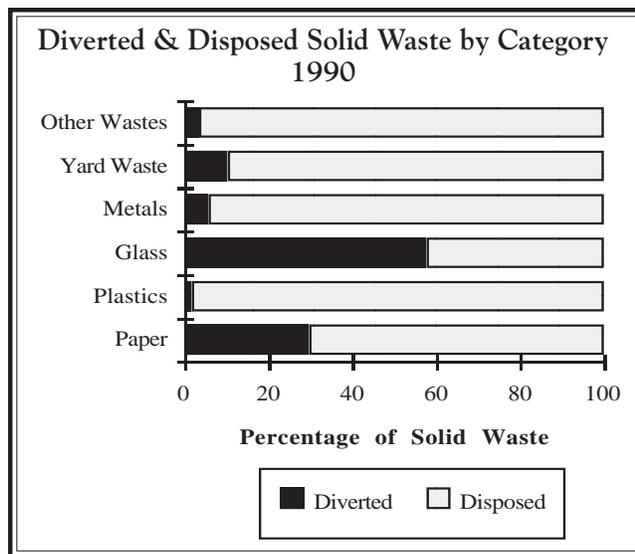
Despite efforts to reduce solid waste disposal by 50 percent, the yearly amount of solid waste sent to landfills increased by 9.5 percent from 801,361 tons in 1990 to 878,347 tons in 1996. Of the solid waste disposed of in 1996, 55 percent went to the Ox Mountain landfill while 45 percent went to the Hillside landfill. Between 1990 and 1992, the countywide diversion rate increased from 14.8 percent to 15.5 percent. In 1990, the average San Mateo County resident generated 8 pounds of solid waste a day, with 6.8 pounds disposed into landfills and 1.2 pounds diverted. Among the materials diverted in 1990, 61 percent were paper products, 1 percent were plastics, 19 percent were glass, 2 percent were metal, 11 percent were yard waste, and 6 percent were other wastes.

What Is The Trend?

The increase in solid waste disposal may be attributed to the increase in San Mateo County's population between 1990 and 1996. It might also be attributed to a change in the method in which solid waste disposal is measured. Lastly, the small increase in the diversion rate may be a result of the lag time between the passing of AB 939 and its



implementation. There is evidence that solid waste reduction and diversion efforts are beginning to have an effect on the disposal rate. The disposal rate during the First Quarter of 1997 was 6 percent lower than the disposal rate during the First Quarter of 1996, from 202,732 tons to



190,725 tons. However, San Mateo County is still far behind the state goal of a 50 percent reduction in solid waste disposal by the year 2000.

Sources: California Environmental Protection Agency, Integrated Waste Management Board, Waste Characterization and Analysis Branch, CIWMB Database Project; California Department of Finance, Demographic Research Unit.

Researcher: Thomas Mills

BIODIVERSITY

What Was Measured?

The plant and animal species in San Mateo County listed as threatened and endangered by the state and federal governments are shown.

Why Is This Important?

The health of our communities and our planet depends on the health of our ecosystem. Protecting biodiversity by keeping ecosystems intact gives us the best chance of keeping species from being listed as threatened or endangered, or from extinction or extirpation (local extinction). While all species play a vital role in the local ecology, many provide important scientific information.

Though it is generally accepted that protecting and restoring native ecosystems protects the region's biodiversity, under current law, an ecosystem in trouble is not directly protected. A specific species must be listed under either state or federal law before plans are enacted to protect that species from extinction. Regulatory bodies and communities are moving towards ecosystem protection through Habitat Conservation Plans, but use of these tools are still dependent upon the listing of an animal species.

What Was Found?

Both plants and animals are represented on the "threatened or endangered" list. Coastal ecosystems, aquatic and terrestrial, have the highest number of listed species.

Many agree that the most important information to determine if we are keeping ecosystems intact is the acreage of the different habitats located in San Mateo County. This information exists, however only in rudimentary form. According to many planners and conservation biologists, the amount of protected

land that is actively being managed for biodiversity is a good future indicator, but this information is not yet available.

Listed Species • 1997

Animals	Federal Status	State Status
California Black Rail	Sp. of Concern	Threatened
California Clapper Rail	Endangered	Endangered
Western Snowy Plover	Threatened	
California Least Tern	Endangered	Endangered
Bank Swallow		Threatened
Tidewater Goby	Endangered	
Salt Marsh Harvest Mouse	Endangered	Endangered
San Francisco Garter Snake	Endangered	Endangered
California Red Legged Frog	Threatened	
San Bruno Elfin Butterfly	Endangered	
Mission Blue Butterfly	Endangered	
Bay Checkerspot Butterfly	Threatened	
Callippe Butterfly*	Endangered	
Plants		
Fountain Thistle	Endangered	Endangered
San Mateo Woolly Sunflower	Endangered	Endangered
San Francisco Lessingia	Prpsd.Endangered	Endangered
White-Rayed Pentachaeta	Endangered	Endangered
San Bruno Mtn. Manzanita	Prpsd.Threatened	Endangered
Pacific Manzanita	Sp. of Concern	Endangered
San Mateo Thorn Mint	Endangered	Endangered
Point Reyes Meadowfoam	Sp. of Concern	Endangered
Marin Western Flax	Threatened	Threatened
Robust Spineflower	Endangered	
Hickman's Cinquefoil	Prpsd.Endangered	Endangered
Dudley's Lousewort	Sp. of Concern	
Santa Cruz Cypress	Endangered	Endangered

* Listed during 1997

Sp.= Species Prpsd.= Proposed

Habitat & Threatened, Endangered, and Rare Animal/Plant Species (Non-Urban Lands) • 1995

	Acres	Threatened, Endangered or Rare Animal/Plant Species
Grasslands	45,459	3 animals/19 plants
Shrub	44,107	2 animals/18 plants
Wetlands	8,211	5 animals/8 plants
Forest	85,225	2 animals/29 plants
Beaches and Dunes*	257	2 animals/29 plants
Other	2,619	2 animals/3 plants

*doesn't include tidal zone

What Is the Trend?

Recent additions to the "threatened and endangered" list, including the 1997 listing of the Callippe Butterfly, are a result of political pressure placed on the state and federal governments. The decline in species is the result of past problems, not necessarily the result of recent irresponsible local decisions or management.

Sources: Deborah Jamison, Peninsula Conservation Center Foundation, *Species in Danger in Our Own Backyard, Volume 1: Endangered, Threatened and Rare Species in the South San Francisco Bay Area*; California Department of Fish and Game; Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG).

Researcher: Christine Shirley

CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT

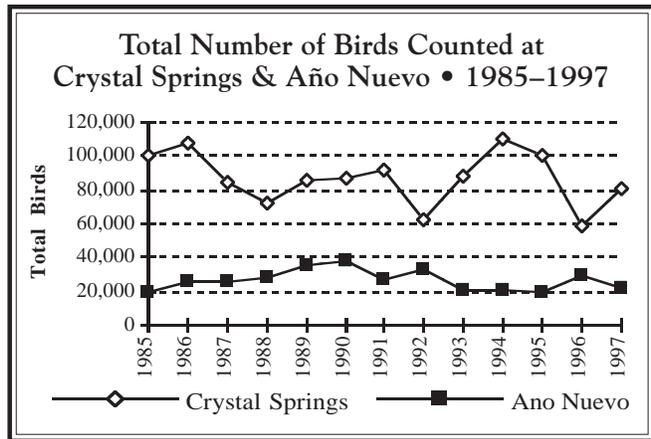
What Was Measured?

The total number of birds found at Crystal Springs and Año Nuevo were measured. This number includes all the birds recorded at each site, and is the best indicator of the status of birds in the area. Also measured were the number of species found at each site. Lastly, five different species were tracked, including the wood duck, red-tailed hawk, California quail, acorn woodpecker and American crow. These five species represent a wide variety of birds with different feeding habits, nesting sites and mating behavior.

These numbers can not easily be compared to national standards because of the deviations in natural environments and habitats.

Why Is This Important?

As with all wildlife, the health of birds is a good indicator of the state of an ecosystem. Strong and consistent numbers indicate an ecosystem in balance. Birds are vital to nature, acting both as predators and as prey, fulfilling varying levels of the food chain. Because



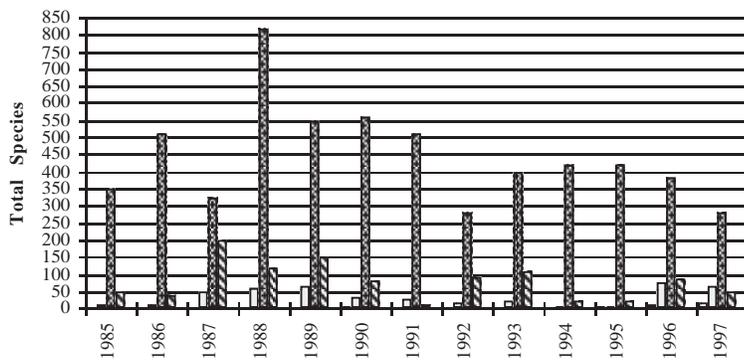
birds are not at the bottom of the food chain, a decrease in the number of birds can reflect a problem with vegetation or a lower group of animals. It should be noted however, that with migratory birds, the rise and fall in numbers may be related to problems elsewhere in their migratory range.

What Was Found?

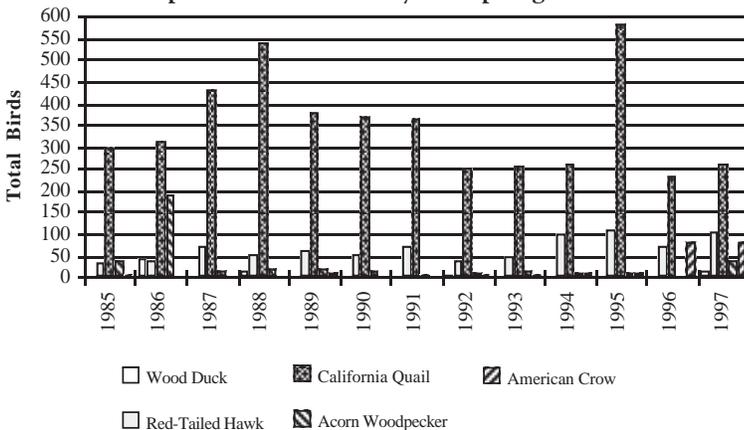
The results of the 1995, 1996, and 1997 counts fluctuated greatly. At Crystal Springs, the total number of birds counted in 1996 was nearly half of those counted in 1995. This huge decrease is alarming, and may signal a problem within the local ecosystem. Yet, the total number of birds counted increased by 35 percent in 1997. Results were just as varied at Año Nuevo, where the bird count rose by almost 52 percent between 1995 and 1996, and then dropped by 22 percent in 1997. The number of overall species counted remained about the same at both locations.

At Año Nuevo most of the five species tracked gained numbers in 1996 and remained steady in 1997. Of the five species tracked at Crystal Springs, most species significantly decreased in numbers in 1996, only to increase significantly in 1997. The only exception to this is the American crow, which is known to increase in numbers as the surrounding habitat is degraded. The number of American crows more than tripled at Crystal Springs in 1996 and remained steady in 1997, possibly indicating a decrease in the quality of the ecosystem.

Individual Species Count at Año Nuevo • 1985–1997



Individual Species Count at Crystal Springs • 1985–1997



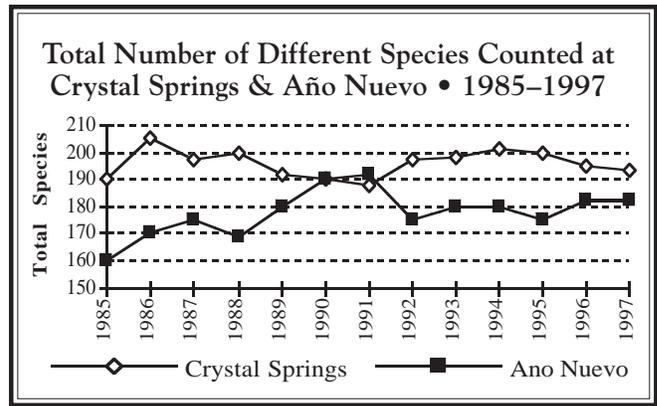
Wood Duck California Quail American Crow
 Red-Tailed Hawk Acorn Woodpecker

What Was The Trend?

The reasons for the variations in bird counts are not known. In the past 13 years, the bird count at Crystal Springs has experienced several peaks and valleys, while the bird count at Año Nuevo has not fluctuated greatly. Researchers should continue to observe carefully bird counts at both sites to gain an understanding of the state of the ecosystem.

Source: Sequoia Auduban Society, 1997 & 1996 Christmas Bird Counts.

Researcher: Thomas Mills and Hilary Gallogly, Community Service Writing Project, Stanford University



COMMERCIAL FISH CATCHES *and* POPULATIONS

What Was Measured?

The California Department of Fish and Game collects figures of the commercial fish catches at Princeton Harbor, San Mateo County’s only commercial fishing port. The Fish and Game Department records the amount of fish brought to this port during the season by weight in pounds; invertebrate catches (squid, dungenous crab, abalone) are included; sport catches are not included. The graph illustrates commercial catches as recorded at Princeton Harbor from 1989 to 1996. It is important to note, however, that reported total pounds of fish caught doesn’t serve as a proxy for the abundance of fish off San Mateo County’s coast. Both oceanographic conditions and natural population fluctuations and cycles have an impact on the abundance of fish in the ocean.

Why Is This Important?

The Pacific Ocean is a biological habitat for a vast array of animal species. Salmon, halibut, cod, mollusks, shellfish, and others are important sources of food. In addition, the

fishing industry provides jobs and contributes to the county’s economy. The environmental health of the ocean is linked to how much of that wealth can be harvested. Conservation of wildlife populations and habitat are necessary to maintain a sustainable equilibrium between current harvests and those of the future. Wide fluctuations of wildlife populations can upset the balance among species and lead to dramatic changes in wildlife living patterns and habitat.

What Was Found?

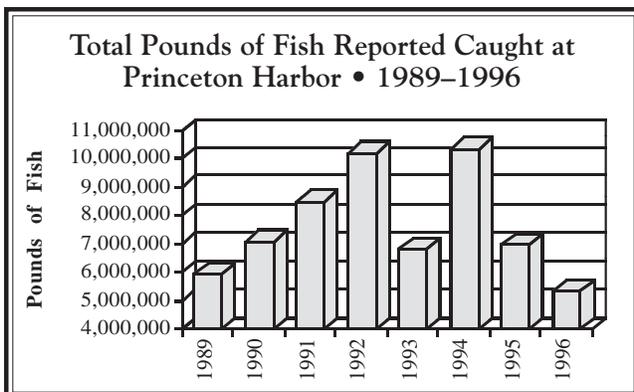
The total pounds of fish reported caught at Princeton Harbor fell by more than 32 percent to 6,964,260 pounds in 1995. Added regulation reduced the number of fishing boats on the water and shortened the season in 1996. This may explain why the total pounds of fish reported caught at Princeton Harbor decreased by 23 percent to 5,311,780 pounds.

What Is The Trend?

Increased regulations and the deterioration of ocean and river habitats may be partly responsible for a decrease in the number of fish caught. However, the total fish catch is not an accurate method of measuring the fish population off San Mateo County’s coast because oceanographic conditions and natural fluctuations and cycles also impact fish populations.

Source: California Department of Fish and Game

Researcher: Adam Messner, Community Service Writing Project, Stanford University



SUSTAINABILITY IN GENERAL PLANS

What Was Measured?

Each city in San Mateo County received a survey regarding sustainability and their general plans. Two questions were asked: 1) Does your city's general plan specifically mention sustainability? 2) Does your city's general plan include the concept of sustainability, in your opinion, even though it is not mentioned specifically? "Yes" or "no" answers were required. Sustainability was defined as "meeting the needs of this generation without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs." Because there is no set criteria for what constitutes sustainability, all responses to the second question of the survey are subjective.

What Was Found?

Thirteen cities responded to the survey and five responded to phone calls. Only East Palo Alto, Menlo Park and Brisbane said that sustainability is specifically mentioned in their general plans. Fourteen cities said that their general plans contain sustainability concepts. Four cities said that sustainability is neither mentioned specifically nor conceptually in their general plans.

What Is The Trend?

There are contradictions between this year's and last year's surveys. It is unclear why there are contradictions between 1997 and 1998 responses on the question of whether sustainability is specifically mentioned in a city's general plan. Contradictions in answers to the second question can more easily be understood, since the question is subjective and respondents for 1998 may be different from those in 1997. It does show that without agreed upon and generally accepted criteria used by all cities, the answers to the second question will remain subjective and changeable.

Yet, sustainability is definitely taking hold in the county. The Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) is presently funding the Coastside Planning Project which intends to unite three coastside areas (Pacifica, Half Moon Bay, and Midcoast) around issues of open space preservation, mobility, and economic vitality. Furthermore, sustainability is featured prominently in Pacifica's Economic Development Plan and Strategy and the environmental impact report which accompanies Menlo Park's General Plan. Lastly, both San Bruno and Millbrae are considering specific mention of sustainability in their soon to be updated general plans.

Source: Respondents from each city, usually someone from the manager's office or the planning department.

Researcher: Thomas Mills

Sustainability in General Plans

City	Specifically Mentions Sustainability		Includes Concept of Sustainability	
	1997	1998	1997	1998
Atherton				
Belmont			X	X
Brisbane	X	X	X	X
Burlingame				X
Colma				X
Daly City			X	X
East Palo Alto	X			X
Foster City				X
Half Moon Bay	X		X	
Hillsborough				
Menlo Park	X		X	X
Millbrae			X	
Pacifica			X	X
Portola Valley			X	X
Redwood City			X	X
San Bruno				
San Carlos			X	X
San Mateo	X		X	
South San Francisco	X			
Woodside			X	

Why Is This Important?

General plans are public documents that reflect the priorities and concerns of the community. They are guidelines for achieving each city's vision for the future. If a city incorporates the concept of sustainability into its general plan, then it is more likely to move towards sustainability.

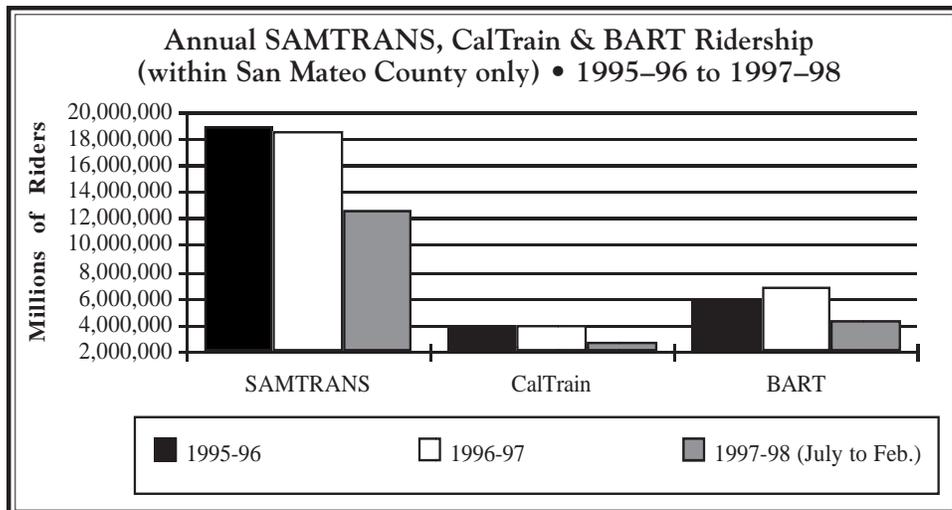
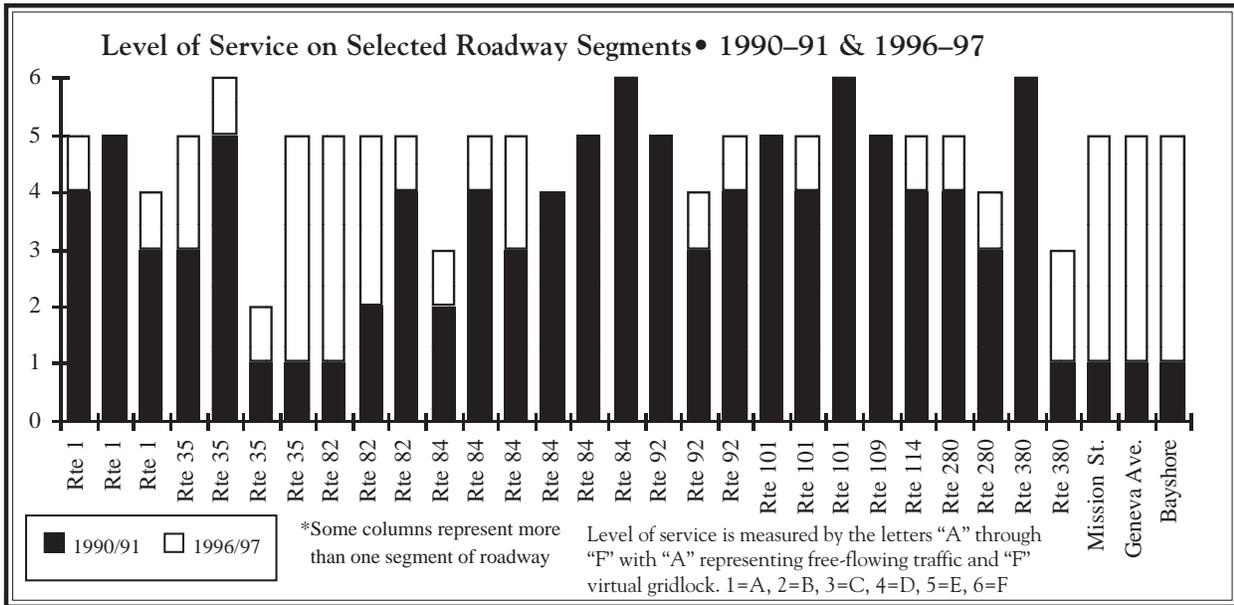
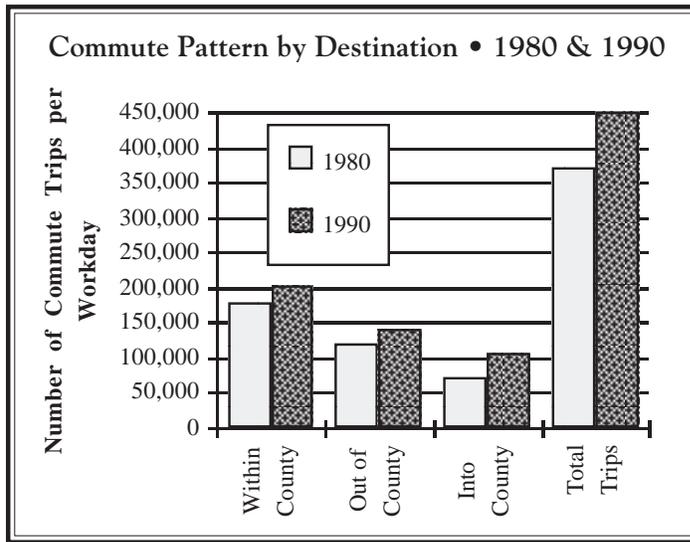
No nation can achieve this on its own: but together we can —in a global partnership for sustainable development.

Agenda 21, Chapter 1
1992 Earth Summit

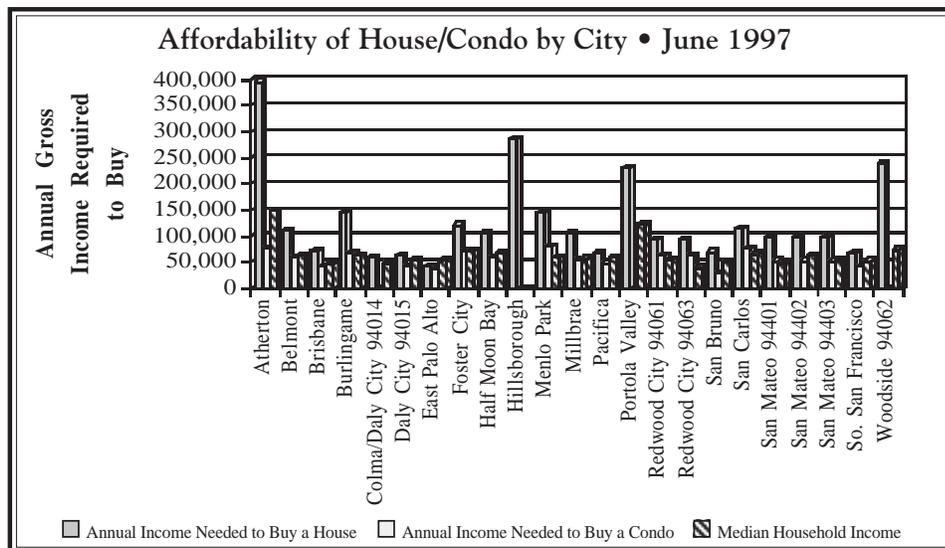
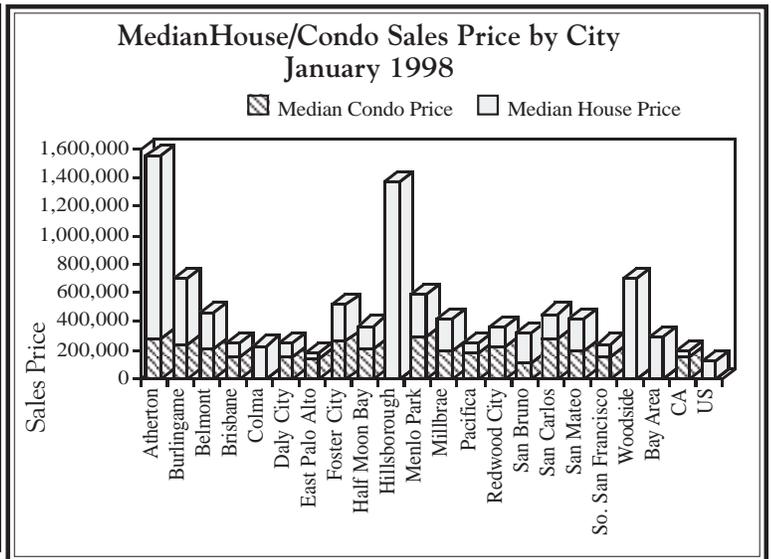
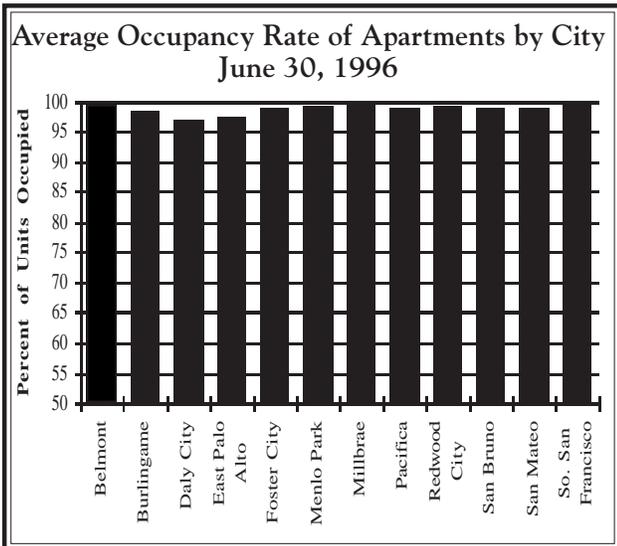
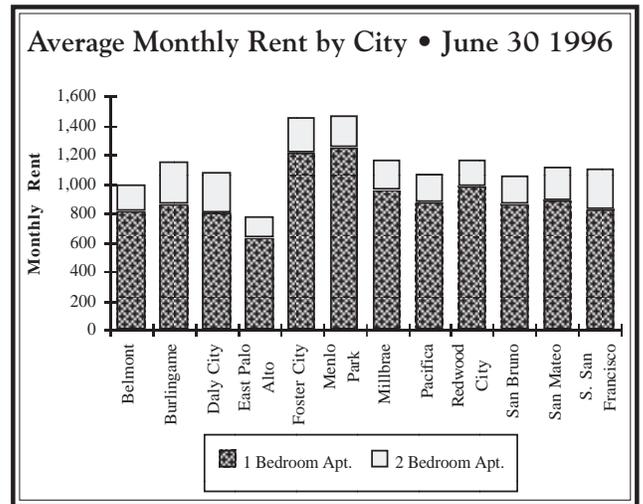
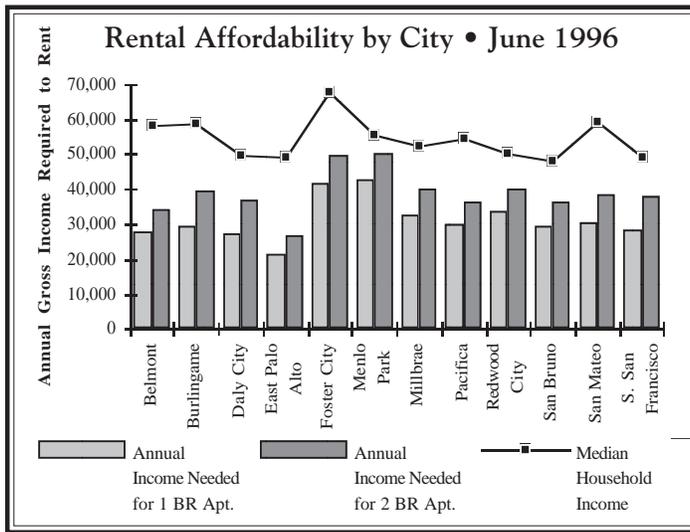
APPENDIX: Per Pupil Spending

Per Pupil Spending • 1994–1996						
School District	1994-95			1995-95		
	K-12 ADA	Revenues	Expenditures per ADA	K-12 ADA	Revenues	Expenditures per ADA
Bayshore	436	\$1,654,878	\$4,038	430	\$1,782,699	\$4,078
Belmont	2,107	8,827,977	4,270	2,176	9,511,149	4,433
Brisbane	583	2,654,863	4,688	584	2,793,373	4,903
Burlingame	2,277	9,610,250	4,239	2,336	10,375,284	4,485
Hillsborough	1,270	7,255,334	5,898	1,285	8,003,822	6,061
Jefferson Elem.	7,964	29,050,633	3,803	8,081	31,812,733	3,917
Laguna Salada	4,037	15,162,029	3,726	3,993	15,824,176	3,919
Las Lomas	890	4,773,132	5,648	917	5,317,291	5,789
Menlo Park	1,848	8,839,381	4,700	1,887	9,616,074	4,880
Millbrae	2,273	9,820,588	4,421	2,285	10,469,370	4,365
Portola Valley	608	3,477,324	6,183	641	4,002,478	6,134
Ravenswood	4,406	20,611,085	4,434	4,638	21,581,340	4,425
Redwood City	8,272	37,022,149	4,514	8,627	42,683,220	4,723
San Bruno Park	2,695	10,350,287	3,881	2,797	11,442,877	3,973
San Carlos	2,351	9,038,946	3,835	2,447	9,970,723	3,812
San Mateo-Foster City	10,054	41,561,420	4,187	10,367	45,500,288	4,362
Woodside	449	3,179,929	6,858	454	3,060,037	6,827
TOTAL ELEMENTARY	52,520	222,890,205	4,284	53,945	243,746,934	4,417
Jefferson High	5,017	25,098,137	4,817	4,920	25,605,428	4,805
San Mateo High	7,806	46,780,717	6,232	7,870	49,341,835	6,127
Sequoia High	6,074	39,021,702	6,445	6,016	41,801,358	6,753
TOTAL HIGH SCHOOL	18,897	110,900,556	5,925	18,806	116,748,621	5,982
Cabrillo Unified	3,589	14,741,737	4,118	3,622	15,706,188	4,240
La Honda-Pescadero Unified	433	2,463,745	5,247	450	2,589,240	5,577
South San Francisco Unified	9,699	39,689,136	3,967	9,795	41,183,150	4,101
TOTAL UNIFIED	13,721	56,894,618	4,047	13,867	59,478,578	4,185
GRAND TOTAL	85,138	\$390,685,379	\$4,610	86,618	\$419,974,133	\$4,720

APPENDIX: Transportation



APPENDIX: Housing



THE PRESIDENT'S COUNCIL ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

The following goals express the shared aspirations of the President's Council on Sustainable Development. They are truly interdependent and flow from the Council's understanding that it is essential to seek economic prosperity, environmental protection, and social equity together. The achievement of any one goal is not enough to ensure that future generations will have at least the same opportunities to live and prosper that this generation enjoys: all are needed.

GOAL 1: HEALTH AND THE ENVIRONMENT

Ensure that every person enjoys the benefits of clean air, clean water, and a healthy environment at home, at work, and at play.

GOAL 2: ECONOMIC PROSPERITY

Sustain a healthy U. S. economy that grows sufficiently to create meaningful jobs, reduce poverty, and provide the opportunity for a high quality of life for all in an increasingly competitive world.

GOAL 3: EQUITY

Ensure that all Americans are afforded justice and have the opportunity to achieve economic, environmental and social well-being.

GOAL 4: CONSERVATION OF NATURE

Use, conserve, protect, and restore natural resources—land, air, water, and biodiversity—in ways that help ensure long-term social, economic, and environmental benefits for ourselves and future generations.

GOAL 5: STEWARDSHIP

Create a widely held ethic of stewardship that strongly encourages individuals, institutions, and corporations to take full responsibility for the economic, environmental, and social consequences of their actions.

GOAL 6: SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES

Encourage people to work together to create healthy

communities where natural and historic resources are preserved, jobs are available, sprawl is contained, neighborhoods are secure, education is lifelong, transportation and health care are accessible, and all citizens have opportunities to improve the quality of their lives.

GOAL 7: CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

Create full opportunity for citizens, businesses, and communities to participate in and influence the natural resource, environmental, and economic decisions that affect them.

GOAL 8: POPULATION

Move toward stabilization of the U.S. population.

GOAL 9: INTERNATIONAL RESPONSIBILITY

Take a leadership role in the development and implementation of global sustainable development policies, standards of conduct, and trade and foreign policies that further the achievement of sustainability.

GOAL 10: EDUCATION

Ensure that all Americans have equal access to education and lifelong learning opportunities that will prepare them for meaningful work, a high quality of life, and an understanding of the concepts involved in sustainable development.

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Pacific Gas and
Electric Company



RESPONSE PAGE

The members of Sustainable San Mateo County made every effort to be inclusive in the process of choosing, writing, reviewing and producing the indicators for this 1998 *Indicators for a Sustainable San Mateo County; a Report Card Of Our County's Quality of Life*. It was always our intent that this be a community project. In the spirit of continuing community participation, we invite you to fill out this page and send it to the address below. We value your comments. Your response can range from a simple additional source of information to volunteering your individual, agency's, or city's assistance in researching and writing an indicator (or more) for the next report!

1. Is this report useful to you? Yes No

2. How can it be improved to be more useful? _____

3. I/we _____ have particular expertise on the following indicator and would be willing to provide assistance in its production for the next report.

4. I/we _____ would be willing to contribute financially or with in-kind services to the production of the next report.

5. Additional comments: _____

Your name _____

Affiliation _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone _____ Fax _____



Please return to
Sustainable San Mateo County
2031 New Brunswick Drive
San Mateo, CA 94402
(650) 341-1650

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Yes!

I want to learn more about
 SUSTAINABLE SAN MATEO COUNTY.
 Please send additional information.

Name _____
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Address _____

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I want to order a copy of
 1998 INDICATORS FOR A
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Yes!

I want to contribute time.

- Help with presentations
- Help the Indicators Project measure S.M. County's progress toward sustainability
- Work with the Business or Planning Task Forces
- Help promote sustainability through other actions or projects

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