



FALL 2017

KEY INDICATOR: COST OF LIVING

TWENTY-FIRST ANNUAL INDICATORS REPORT

SUSTAINABLE

SAN MATEO COUNTY

SUSTAINABILITY: A HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT, SOCIETY
AND ECONOMY FOR THE LONG TERM

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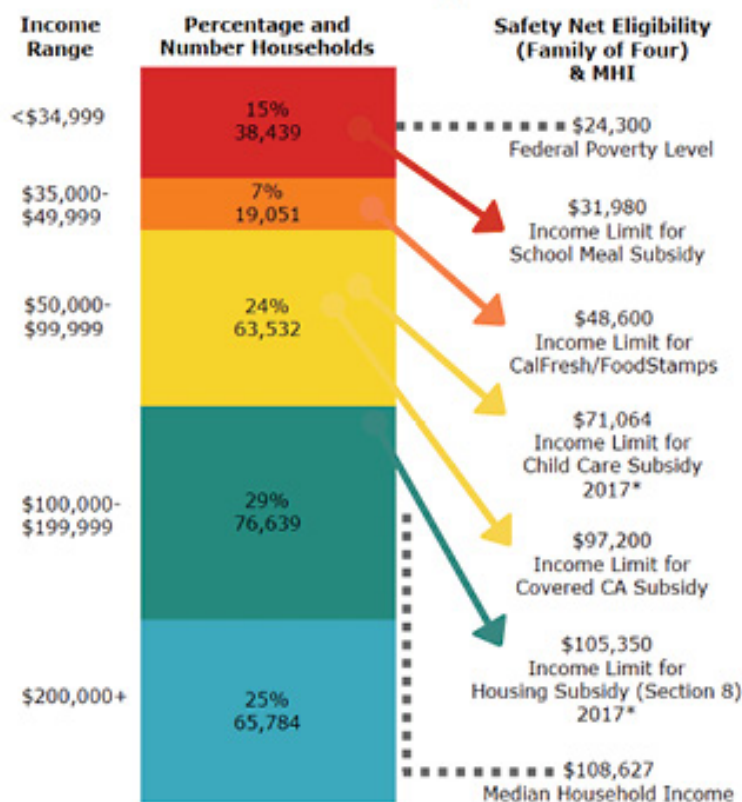


Sustainable
San Mateo County
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Key Indicator: Cost of Living

Safety Net Eligibility & Income Distribution San Mateo County, 2016



* Income limit increased in 2017 to account for the cost of living

Data Source: American Community Survey, 1-Year Estimates, Healthcare.gov, Second Harvest Food Bank, San Mateo - Foster City School District, 2017 San Mateo County Child Care and Preschool Needs Assessment, Covered CA, Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)

Access to Healthcare and Affordable Produce by Income San Mateo County, 2013

Respondent's Income as a Percent of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL)	<200% FPL	200-400% FPL	>400% FPL
Cost Likely to Prevent a Physician Visit	19.1%	13.1%	4.2%
Cost Likely to Prevent the Purchase of Prescription Medications	22.7%	10.4%	3.9%
Lack of Transportation Likely to Prevent Accessing Medical Services	13.7%	6.1%	0.9%
Access to Affordable Produce is "Fair" or "Poor"	18.3%	6%	1.4%

Data Source: 2013 Community Health Needs Assessment: Health & Quality of Life in San Mateo County

The high cost of living in San Mateo County has far reaching impacts on economic mobility, housing, transportation, child care, education, and community health.

Over the past four years the county median household income has increased by 20%¹, shifting the definition of middle-income wages. Income disparity persists as many residents struggle to meet their needs, but earn too much to qualify for government assistance based on the Federal Poverty Level (FPL) or the state poverty rate.

In response, several government agencies increased the income limits for safety net programs in 2017, including federal housing assistance and state child care subsidies. A variety of local nonprofit organizations have stepped up efforts to alleviate the pressure on household budgets while providing services to an increasing number of clients.

In 2017, San Mateo County was ranked the healthiest county² in the state based on a wide range of criteria, many of which are a reflection of the county's affluence and an impressive public health system that resulted from thoughtful long-term planning. Though a growing number of residents have health insurance, many households are still burdened with costly co-pays, premiums, deductibles, and non-covered services. San Mateo County's Healthcare Districts fund programs that fill the gap for residents who cannot afford healthcare costs.

¹ US Census, American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates, adjusted for inflation

² County Health Rankings and Roadmaps

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More about healthcare costs and support services in the Cost of Living section of the Indicators Report

Impacts on Education, Families, and Health

Family income affects education outcomes for students from the outset. Reading to children and participation in quality preschool leads to marked differences in standardized test scores by the third grade. The cost of preschool is equivalent to the cost of childcare for a child age 2-5, and is inaccessible to many families. Third grade academic proficiency is an indicator of future scholastic achievement with far reaching impacts on life-time economic mobility³. San Mateo County's The Big Lift program seeks to improve third grade reading skills by facilitating access to high-quality preschool and summer enrichment programs, as well as encouraging school attendance and family engagement in reading.

Home location also has an impact on education outcomes. Neighborhoods are economically segregated and school funding is determined by property taxes, resulting in less funding for schools serving low-income students. Eight schools in San Mateo County receive less funding per student than the state average of \$10,183, while 2 school districts receive over twice the state average⁴. In 2014, the state established a new Local Control Funding Formula to address these funding disparities.

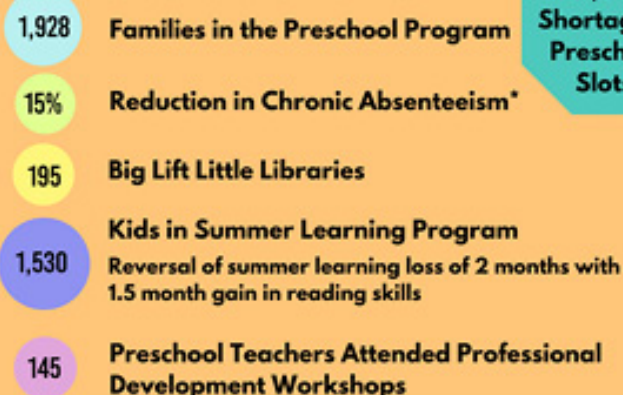
The San Mateo County Community College District (SMCCCD) is the sole provider of public higher education that is affordable for a wide range of students entering an increasingly competitive job market. 48% of students who earn a bachelor's degrees in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) at UCs, began their studies at a community college⁵. California recently passed a bill to waive tuition fees for the first year of community college, enhancing accessibility for a greater number of students.

³ Annie E. Casey Foundation

⁴ Ed-Data: California Department of Education

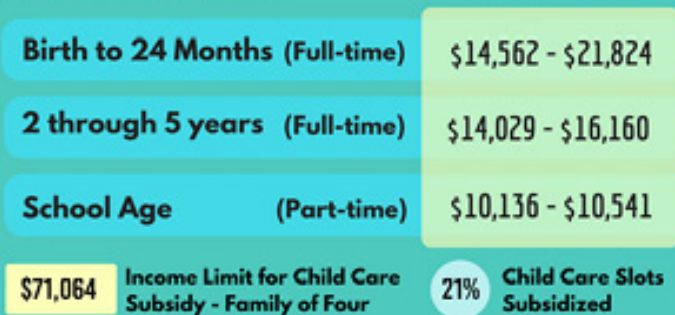
⁵ California Community Colleges Chancellors Office

THE BIG LIFT 2017



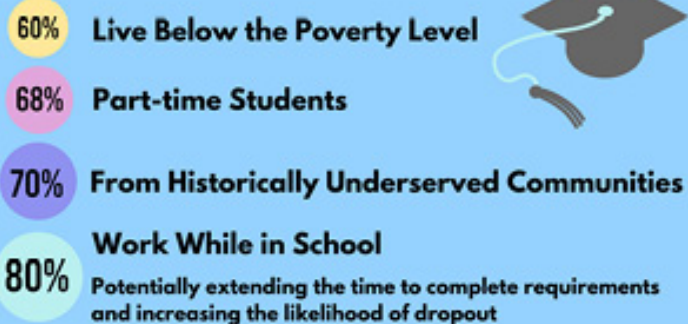
* Attendance Matters research study at 14 school districts in 2015-2016
Data Source: San Mateo County Office of Education, Silicon Valley Community Foundation

ANNUAL COST OF CHILD CARE SAN MATEO COUNTY



Child Care Costs based on the 75th percentile of 2014 Regional Market Survey for Family Child Care Home and Child Care Center facilities.
Data Source: 2017 San Mateo County Child Care and Preschool Needs Assessment, California Department of Education

COMMUNITY COLLEGE STUDENTS SAN MATEO COUNTY

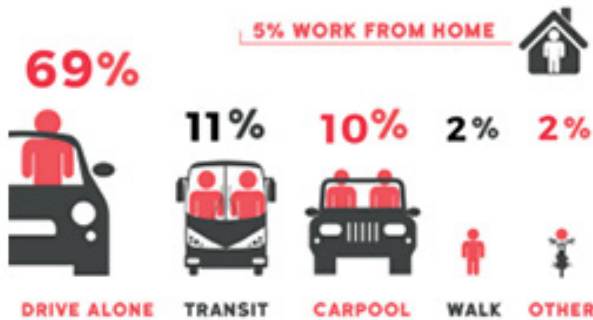


Data Source: San Mateo County Community College District

Learn more about local school funding and student achievement in the Education section of the Indicators Report

Indicators Report Updates

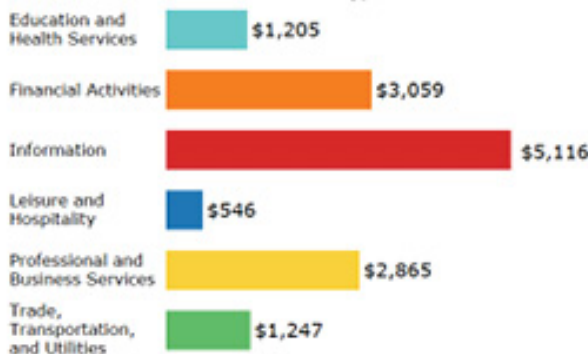
Travel Modes to Work San Mateo County, 2016



Percentages do not add to 100% due to rounding
Data source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates

- In 2016 there was a slight increase in the number of commuters that drove alone, up from 68% in 2015.
- Compared to 2013, the number of people who work from home increased by 25%.
- The number of commuters that travel by Taxi increased by 188% between 2016 and 2015, while the number of bicycle riders decreased by 8% (included in the "Other" category).

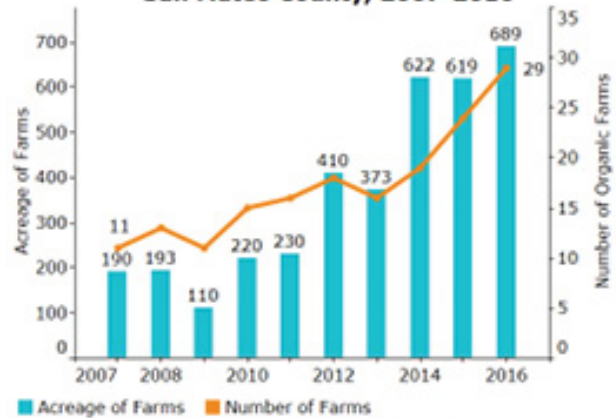
Average Weekly Wages by Industry San Mateo County, 2016



Data Source: California Employment Development Department

- The Information sector includes all forms of publishing, broadcasting, telecommunications, and data processing industries. It has consistently produced the highest annual average weekly wages in the county since 2013. However, wages for this sector decreased by 26% in 2016 compared with the prior year.
- In 2016, the Financial sector experienced a 14% increase in annual weekly wages compared with 2015, the largest increase among the six sectors.
- Lagging wages in the Education and Health Services, Leisure and Hospitality, and Trade, Transportation and Utilities sectors contribute to rising income inequality within the county.

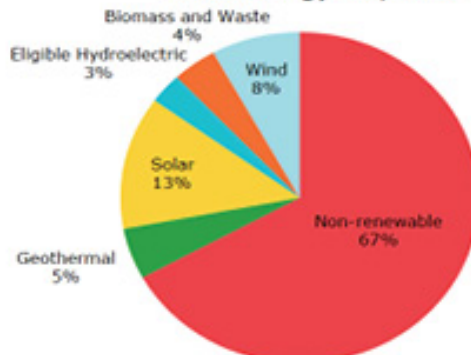
Organic Farms San Mateo County, 2007-2016



Data Source: San Mateo County, Department of Agriculture & Weights and Measures, Agricultural Crop Report 2016

- Last year, the estimated gross production value of organics in San Mateo County increased by 7.4% to over \$6 million.
- Organic farms rely on ecosystem management to maintain soil nutrients and prevent pests, rather than pesticides, herbicides, chemical fertilizers, or bioengineering.
- Learn more about the crops and livestock produced in San Mateo County in the Land, Agriculture & Animals section of the Indicators Report.

Percent Renewable Energy PG&E Energy Mix, 2016



Eligible Hydroelectric: facilities with a capacity rating of 30 MW or less
Non-renewable energy sources include: natural gas, nuclear, and large hydroelectric
Data Source: PG&E Corporate Responsibility and Sustainability Report 2017

- The portion of solar power in the eligible renewable energy mix increased by 388% from 2012 to 2016.
- Eligible hydroelectric energy increased by 80% from 2015 to 2016, while the amount of biomass and waste, geothermal, and wind energy decreased.
- Under California's Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS), the state's utility providers must procure 33% of their electricity from renewable sources by 2020.

See the Indicators Report for new data on Income, Poverty, Agriculture, Education, and Energy