

**SOLANO COUNTY STATISTICAL PROFILE**

The County of Solano is strategically located along Interstate 80 between San Francisco and Sacramento. As one of California’s original 27 counties, Solano County is rich in history and offers many resources to the public and the business community. In addition to the unincorporated area, the County serves seven cities: Benicia, Dixon, Fairfield, Rio Vista, Suisun City, Vacaville, and Vallejo. Solano County is comprised of 913 total square miles, including 675 square miles of rural and farmlands, 150 square miles of urban land area, including cities and unincorporated areas, and 84 square miles of water.

The County provides the following services:

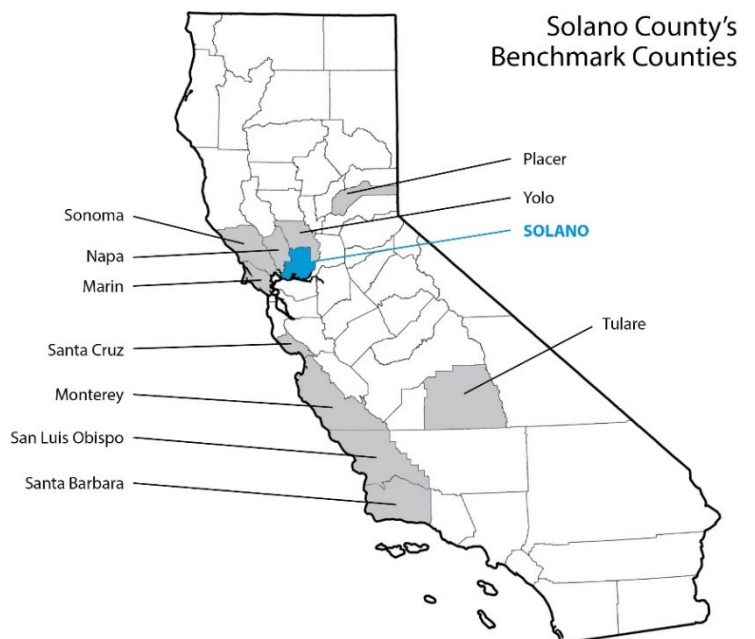
- Libraries (as contract services for cities)
- Jails and Juvenile Facilities
- Probationary Supervision
- District Attorney
- Public Defender and Alternative Defense
- Grand Jury
- Coroner and Forensic Services
- Airport
- Family Support Collection
- Public Health and Behavioral Health Services
- Dental Services
- Indigent Medical Services
- Child Protection and Social Services
- Public Assistance
- Environmental Health
- Parks
- Veterans Services
- Agricultural Commissioner
- Weights and Measures
- U.C. Cooperative Extension Services
- Oversight and Permitting of Landfills and Solid Waste Disposal and Collection
- Elections and Voter Registration
- Clerk-Recorder
- Tax Assessment and Collection
- Emergency Medical Services
- Animal Care Services
- Building and Safety (unincorporated County only)
- Maintenance of County Roads and Bridges
- Law Enforcement (primarily unincorporated County)
- Land Use Planning Services (unincorporated County only)
- Napa/Solano Area Agency on Aging (staff support)

**BENCHMARK COUNTIES**

The following pages provide a graphical summary of statistical, employment, and demographic information about Solano County. When reviewing Solano County’s economic health, the County government’s financial capacity, and the County’s delivery of services to residents in unincorporated areas, comparisons are provided from the current year to prior years.

Additionally, the question of how Solano County compares with other counties is often raised. This leads to the question: Which counties should be used for comparison purposes?

A group of ten counties have been selected for comparison in seven of the following charts. Solano County shares the following characteristics in common with each of these counties:



# Solano County Statistical Profile

## Bill Emlen, County Administrator

- Similar in population – two with higher population and eight with lower population.
- A total population of more than 125,000 but less than 525,000.
- All include both suburban and rural environments.
- None contain a city with more than 300,000 in population.
- Seven are coastal or Bay Area counties.
- Most have similar land use challenges.

### COUNTY POPULATION OVER TIME

The California Department of Finance’s May 1, 2024, estimate of the population of Solano County is 446,426, increasing by 920 residents or (0.2%) when compared to 2023 (Chart A). Of California’s 58 counties, Solano County ranks number 19 in terms of population size. Five of Solano County’s seven cities experienced a gain in population and two experienced a decline in population between 2023 and 2024, with the single largest percentage gain in Dixon at +343 (1.8%) and the single largest decline in Benicia at -222 (or -0.8%).

California’s population estimate was 39.12 million as of May 1, 2024, a 0.4% increase from 2023, per the California Department of Finance. California, the nation’s most populous State, represents 12% of the nation’s population, or one out of every eight persons. Solano County’s population represents 1.17% of the State population.

When you look at the County population over the past 24 years, the rate of growth nearly doubled between 2010 and 2020 when compared to 2000 to 2010, but then shows a very low increase between 2023 and 2024. See Chart B below for figures.

**CHART A: SOLANO COUNTY POPULATION CHANGE FROM 2023 TO 2024**

AREA	2023 POPULATION	2024 POPULATION	DIFFERENCE	PERCENTAGE
<b>COUNTY TOTAL</b>	<b>445,506</b>	<b>446,426</b>	<b>920</b>	<b>0.2%</b>
Benicia	26,255	26,033	(222)	-0.8%
Dixon	19,060	19,403	343	1.8%
Fairfield	120,036	120,339	303	0.3%
Rio Vista	9,969	10,004	35	0.4%
Suisun City	28,543	28,840	297	1.0%
Vacaville	101,272	102,173	901	0.9%
Vallejo	122,220	121,558	(662)	-0.5%
Unincorporated	18,151	18,076	(75)	-0.4%

**CHART B: SOLANO COUNTY POPULATION CHANGE FROM 2000 TO 2020, 2023 TO 2024**

	2000	2000 to 2010		2010	2010 to 2020		2020	2023	2024	Difference
Benicia	26,865	132	0.5%	26,997	85	0.3%	27,082	26,255	26,033	-0.8%
Dixon	16,103	2,248	14.0%	18,351	508	2.8%	18,859	19,060	19,403	1.8%
Fairfield	96,178	9,143	9.5%	105,321	15,126	14.4%	120,447	120,036	120,339	0.3%
Rio Vista	4,571	2,789	61.0%	7,360	2,628	35.7%	9,988	9,969	10,004	0.4%
Suisun City	26,118	1,993	7.6%	28,111	1,343	4.8%	29,454	28,543	28,840	1.0%
Vacaville	88,625	3,803	4.3%	92,428	9,801	10.6%	102,229	101,272	102,173	0.9%
Vallejo	116,760	-818	-0.7%	115,942	9,994	8.6%	125,936	122,220	121,558	-0.5%
Unincorporated	19,322	-488	-2.5%	18,834	562	3.0%	19,396	18,151	18,076	-0.4%
<b>Solano County</b>	<b>394,542</b>	<b>18,802</b>	<b>4.8%</b>	<b>413,344</b>	<b>40,047</b>	<b>9.7%</b>	<b>453,391</b>	<b>445,506</b>	<b>446,426</b>	<b>0.2%</b>

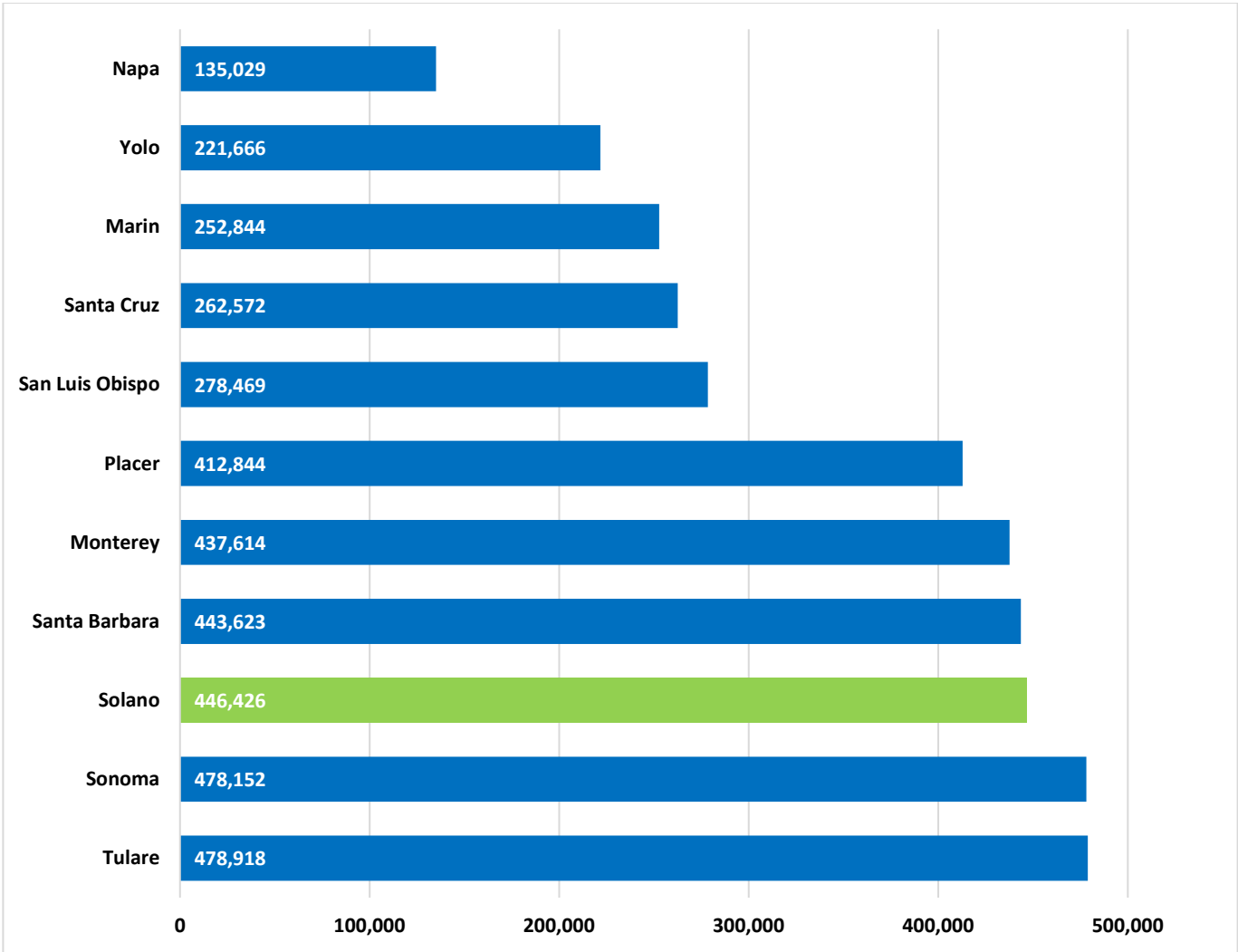
Chart A and Chart B Source: U.S. Census Bureau; California Department of Finance, Demographic Research Unit, May 2024

**OUR CHANGING POPULATION – HOW WE COMPARE TO BENCHMARK COUNTIES**

As of May 2024, California’s population increased by 0.2%, with 67,104 more residents per the California Department of Finance. Among the ten comparable benchmark counties, six counties added residents, including Tulare, Santa Barbara, Monterey, Placer, Yolo, and Napa. Solano County increased at a modest rate with 920 more residents, or about 0.2% of the County’s total population. San Luis Obispo lost the greatest number of residents among the comparable counties, when comparing overall percentage of the population, losing 1,349 residents (or -0.5%) of the County’s total population.

The table below shows the population of the ten benchmark counties, including Solano County, and their total population as of May 2024. Solano County remains the third largest county based on population, just behind Tulare and Sonoma Counties. It should be noted that Solano County passed Santa Barbara County in 2022, moving from the fourth spot to number three.

**CHART C: POPULATION OF BENCHMARK COUNTIES / POPULATION GROWTH AND PERCENTAGE, 2024**



*Source: California Department of Finance, Demographic Research Unit, May 2024*

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### SNAPSHOT – SOLANO AT A GLANCE, DEMOGRAPHICS

#### EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

Per the 2023 Index of Economic and Community Progress, Solano County's graduation rate (86.6%) fell slightly by 2.2 percentage points in academic year 2022/23 (the latest data available) from the previous academic year (88.8%) but remains above the State of California's graduation rate of 86.2%. Per the 2018-2022 American Community Survey, 26.4% of Solano County residents aged 25 years and older have attended some college and 29.8% have earned either an associates and/or a bachelor's degree, 0.3 percentage points lower than the State average of 30.1%. Solano County residents aged 25 and older with a graduate degree is 8.9%, 4.9 percentage points lower than the State average of 13.8%.

#### AGE GROUP BY POPULATION

In Solano County, the number of young and working adults closely mirrors the national average, whereas the gap between Solano's senior and retirement age population remains mostly flat.

Approximately 22.0% of all people living in Solano County are below 18 years of age. This closely mirrors the State percentage of 22.3%, a difference of 0.3 percentage points.

More than half (61.5%) of Solano County's total population is comprised of residents between 18 and 64 years of age, the classic labor-force participation age group. This is lower (1.3 percentage points) than the State of California's average of 62.8% of the total population.

In Solano County, individuals aged 65 years and older represent approximately 16.5% of the total population, up by 0.6 percentage points over the course of a year (down from 15.9% in 2021). In the State of California, this age demographic makes up approximately 14.9% of the total population.

#### RACE IDENTIFICATION

The California Department of Finance generates population projections for all counties in California. Research projects that over the next 10 years Solano County will be increasingly more ethnically diverse. According to the Association of Bay Area Governments and the Metropolitan Transportation Commission, Solano County is the most diverse County in the nation.

By the end of 2024, preliminary predictions indicate that Solano County will be approximately 35.3% White, 28.5% Hispanic, 13.4% African American, 16.0% Asian, and 6.8% Other Races. Note that "Hispanic" is considered an ethnicity in the Census data versus other "race" categories.

#### **CHART D: RACE COMPOSITION OF SOLANO COUNTY RESIDENTS, 2024 – 2030 ESTIMATES, % of TOTAL**

<b>Ethnic Composition of Solano County Residents</b>	<b>2024 Population Estimates (year-end)</b>
White, non-Hispanic	35.3%
Hispanic or Latino	28.5%
African American, non-Hispanic	13.4%
Asian, non-Hispanic	16.0%
Other Races, non-Hispanic	6.8%

Sources: (1) California Department of Finance, May 2024  
(2) The 2023 Index of Economic and Community Progress

**SOLANO COUNTY – SIZE, DISTRIBUTION AND WHERE PEOPLE LIVE**

According to the California Department of Finance’s May 2024 City/County Population Estimates, statewide 82.6% of California residents live in incorporated cities and 17.2% in unincorporated areas. In contrast, 96% of residents in Solano County live within the County’s seven cities. This phenomenon is by design. In the early 1980s, the residents of the County passed an Orderly Growth Initiative, which was extended in 1994, that focuses most urban growth to the incorporated cities. The voters reaffirmed this measure through the adoption of the 2008 Solano County General Plan, sustaining a commitment to city-focused growth through 2028.

In comparison to its benchmark counties, Solano County is one of the smaller counties in terms of square miles of land area. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, Solano County consists of 913 square miles, of which 84 square miles is covered with water. The San Pablo Bay, Suisun Bay, the Carquinez Straits, and the Sacramento River provide the County with natural borders to the south and east. Rich agricultural land lies in the northern area of the County while rolling hills make up the southern area. Approximately 62% of the County land area is comprised of farmland.

This unique mixture of a sizeable urban population and a large rural/agricultural base creates unique challenges for County government, including:

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

**CHART E: COMPARISON OF LAND AREA, POPULATION DENSITY AND DISTRIBUTION IN BENCHMARK COUNTIES**

Total square miles, land and water			Persons per square mile		Percent of residents living in unincorporated areas	
COUNTY	LAND	WATER	COUNTY	PERSONS	COUNTY	PERCENT
Tulare	4,824	15	<b>Solano</b>	<b>489</b>	Santa Cruz	48.5%
Monterey	3,322	449	Santa Cruz	432	San Luis Obispo	43.1%
San Luis Obispo	3,304	311	Marin	306	Santa Barbara	31.4%
Santa Barbara	2,737	1,052	Placer	273	Tulare	28.0%
Sonoma	1,576	192	Sonoma	270	Sonoma	27.4%
Placer	1,404	98	Yolo	216	Placer	27.1%
Yolo	1,015	9	Napa	162	Marin	26.2%
<b>Solano</b>	<b>829</b>	<b>84</b>	Santa Barbara	116	Monterey	24.1%
Napa	789	40	Monterey	114	Napa	16.9%
Marin	520	308	Tulare	98	Yolo	15.4%
Santa Cruz	445	162	San Luis Obispo	77	<b>Solano</b>	<b>4.0%</b>

*Source: U.S. Census Bureau, California Department of Finance, Demographic Research Unit, May 2024*

**SOLANO FAMILIES LIVING IN POVERTY – HOW WE COMPARE**

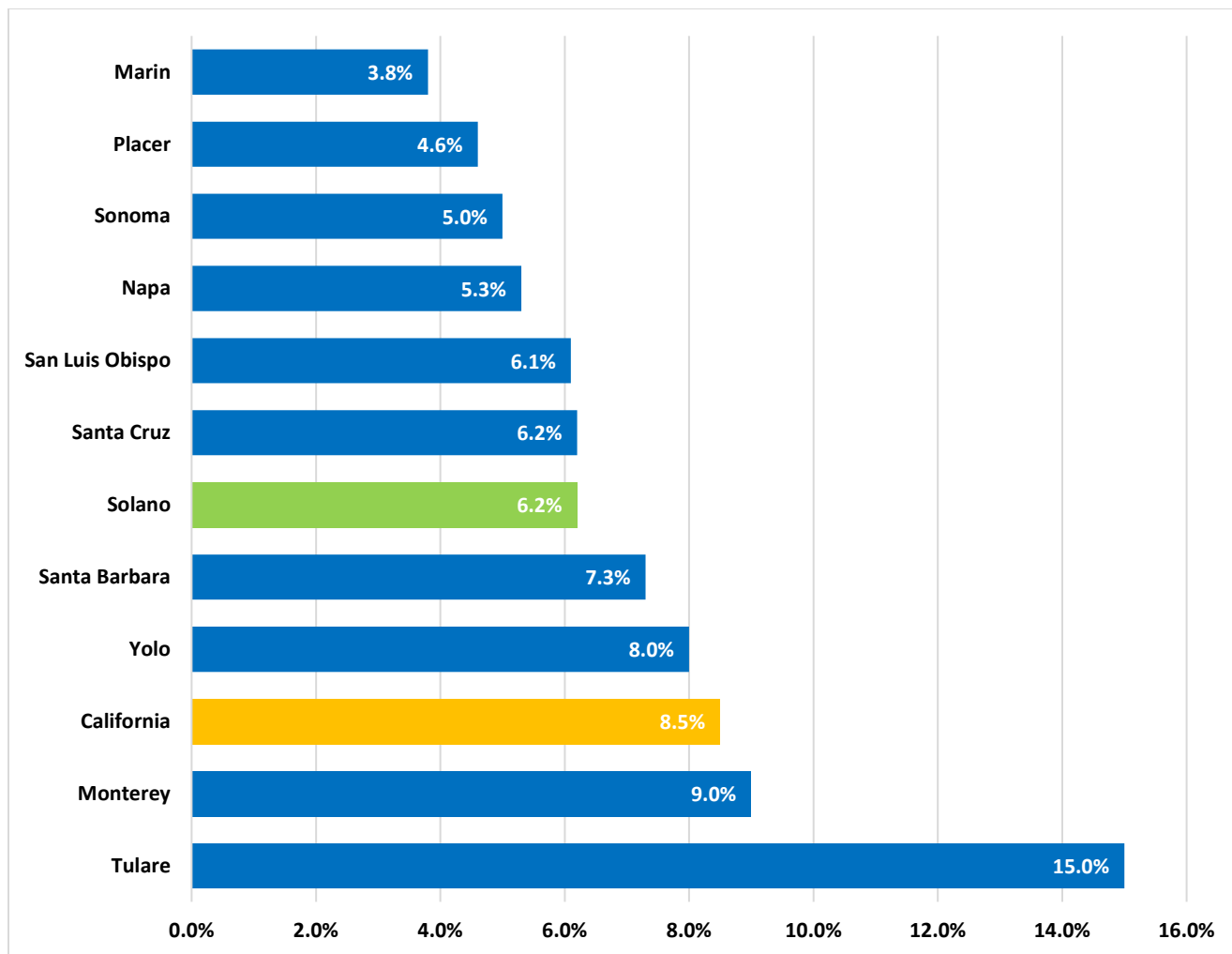
The U.S. Census Bureau defines the poverty threshold for an average family of four (two adults with two children) living in the United States (48 contiguous states and the District of Columbia, not including Alaska and Hawaii) as having a median annual family income of \$30,900 or less for calendar year 2024. The median annual family income for all families living in Solano County is \$110,159.

Per the 2018-2022 American Community Survey by the U.S. Census Bureau, the latest date the data is available, 6.2% of all families are living at or below the federal poverty level in Solano County. This estimate compares to 9.0% of all people, 3.4% of married couples and 11.4% of people under the age of 18 living under the federal poverty level in Solano County. The poverty rate was the highest, estimated at 15.8%, among households with a female head of house with no spouse present.

The number of families living at or below the poverty level varies considerably among Solano County’s seven cities, including Benicia, 4.3%; Dixon, 5.3%; Fairfield, 6.6%; Rio Vista, 4.3%; Suisun City, 6.5%; Vacaville, 5.0%, and Vallejo, 8.2%.

Solano County is positioned seventh on the bar chart below when compared to benchmark counties, with four counties having higher family poverty rates, including Santa Barbara, Yolo, Monterey, and Tulare counties; and six counties with lower family poverty rates, including Marin, Placer, Sonoma, Napa, San Luis Obispo, and Santa Cruz. Solano County is 2.3 percentage points lower than the statewide average for all families living at or below the poverty level.

**CHART F: PERCENTAGE OF FAMILIES IN POVERTY IN BENCHMARK COUNTIES**



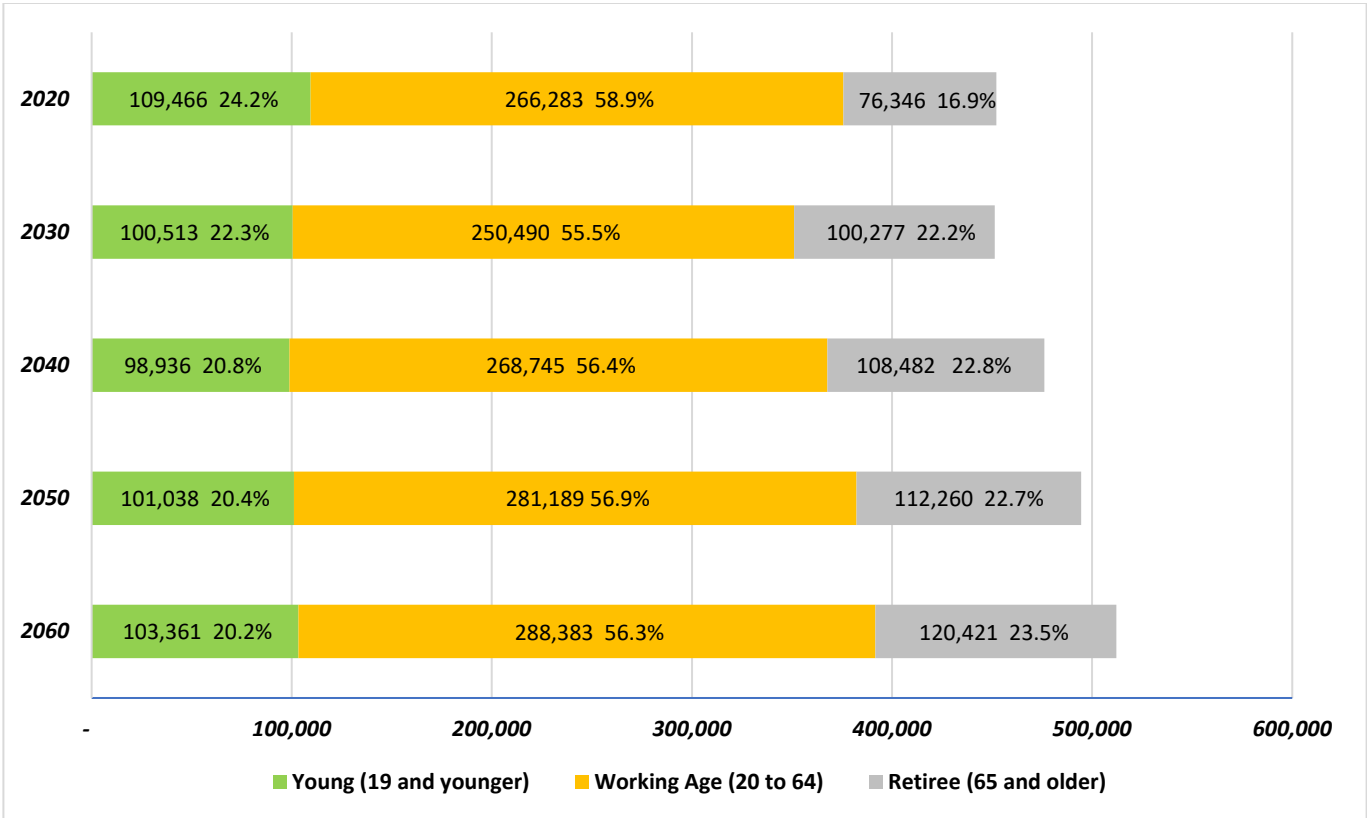
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey

**OUR CHANGING POPULATION – THE NEXT SEVERAL DECADES**

Solano County’s population is projected to grow from 452,095 in 2020 to 512,165 or 13.3% by 2060, according to projections by the U.S. Census’ American Community Survey (2018-2022). The composition of this population is expected to shift significantly over the next 40 years, with the median age increasing from 37.7 in 2020 to 42.8 in 2060. The aging population will likely affect the types of service demands placed on the County and may impact statewide and regional planning efforts.

One way to evaluate this population change is to analyze the dependency ratio, which examines the population changes in relationship to the traditional working age population of individuals between age 19 to 64. In 2020, for every 6.3 people in the county workforce there were 2.5 children and 1.2 retirees. By 2060, the young population (19 and younger) is expected to decrease by 6,105 or 5.6%; the working age population will increase by 22,100 or 8.3%; and retiree population will increase by 44,075 or 57.7%. The Department of Finance projects more people will be entering the retiree population than those entering the workforce.

**CHART G: SOLANO SHARE OF POPULATION BY AGE AS PERCENT OF TOTAL POPULATION, 2020-2060**



Source: 2018-2022 American Community Survey, May 2024

**CHART H: SOLANO COUNTY ESTIMATED POPULATION CHANGE BY DECADE AND 2024 SNAPSHOT**

AGE DEMOGRAPHIC	2020	2024	2030	2040	2050	2060
Young (19 and younger)	109,466	103,750	100,513	98,936	101,038	103,361
Working Age (20 to 64)	266,283	252,763	250,490	268,745	281,189	288,383
Retiree (65 and older)	76,346	86,166	100,277	108,482	112,260	120,421
<b>TOTAL POPULATION</b>	<b>452,095</b>	<b>442,679</b>	<b>451,280*</b>	<b>476,163</b>	<b>494,487</b>	<b>512,165</b>

\* Projection by years end. Source: California Department of Finance, May 2024

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**UNEMPLOYMENT AND THE ECONOMY**

Most every county in the U.S. was impacted economically by the COVID-19 pandemic health emergency, with a direct impact on their regional unemployment rates. Prior to March of 2020, the unemployment rate in Solano County had been relatively stable – between 4.1% and 4.6% – a level considered “full employment” by most economists. In April 2020, at the beginning of the health emergency, the unemployment rate in Solano County reached an all-time high, peaking at 15.7% in April 2020. In March 2021, nearly a year later, the unemployment rate had fallen to 7.8%, a significant decrease from the previous year.

**Chart I** below shows the year-over-year unemployment rates in benchmark counties (March to March). As of March 2024, the unemployment rate in Solano County was 5.3% which is comparable to the overall rate in California. **Chart J** below shows the year over year unemployment rates in Solano County cities (March to March) and how they have changed over time.

**CHART I: UNEMPLOYMENT RATES FROM MARCH 2020 TO MARCH 2024 IN BENCHMARK COUNTIES**

COUNTY	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
MARIN	3.0%	4.8%	2.4%	3.1%	3.7%
SONOMA	3.6%	6.0%	3.0%	3.6%	4.2%
NAPA	4.0%	6.6%	3.2%	3.6%	4.2%
PLACER	4.0%	5.5%	2.8%	3.7%	4.3%
SANTA BARBARA	5.6%	6.6%	3.5%	4.5%	5.1%
CALIFORNIA	5.6%	8.2%	4.2%	4.8%	5.3%
SOLANO	5.0%	7.8%	4.6%	4.8%	5.3%
YOLO	5.9%	6.4%	3.7%	5.1%	5.8%
SANTA CRUZ	7.9%	8.1%	5.2%	6.9%	7.4%
MONTEREY	11.8%	10.4%	7.6%	9.6%	10.5%
TULARE	14.5%	11.6%	8.4%	11.3%	12.0%

*Source: California Employment Development Department, March 2020 to March 2024*

**CHART J: UNEMPLOYMENT RATES FROM MARCH 2020 TO MARCH 2024 IN SOLANO COUNTY CITIES**

CITY	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
DIXON	5.0%	7.4%	4.5%	3.6%	3.9%
BENICIA	3.6%	5.5%	2.8%	3.4%	4.1%
VACAVILLE	4.2%	7.4%	3.8%	4.2%	4.6%
SUISUN CITY	4.8%	7.5%	4.5%	4.4%	4.8%
FAIRFIELD	4.8%	7.4%	4.2%	4.6%	5.2%
VALLEJO	5.1%	8.8%	4.9%	5.0%	5.6%
RIO VISTA	5.0%	9.6%	8.5%	12.2%	13.3%

*Source: California Employment Development Department, March 2020 to March 2024*



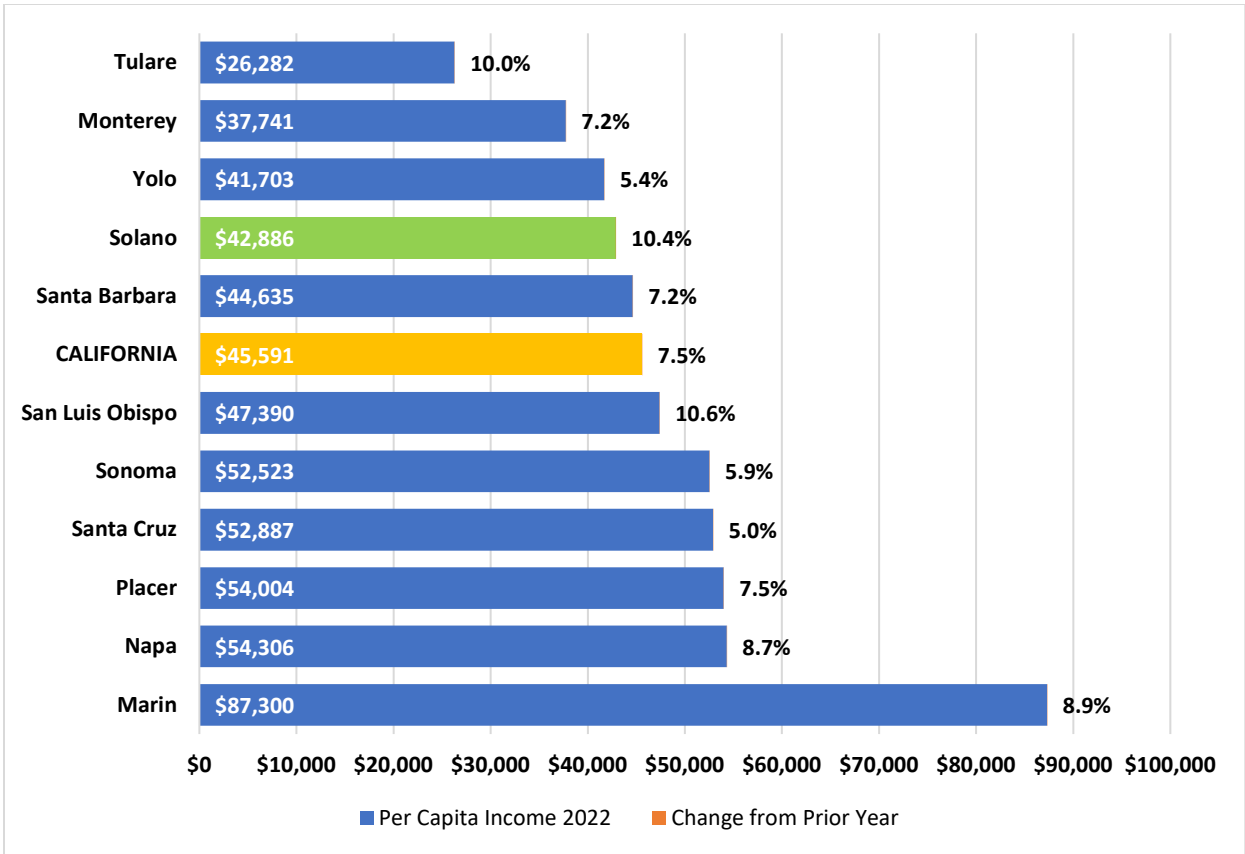
**CHANGE IN PERSONAL INCOME – HOW IT AFFECTS PURCHASING POWER**

Personal income is made up of wages and salaries, transfer payments from all levels of government, investment income (dividends, interest, and rents), business income from owning a business (proprietor’s income), and other income sources. The *2018-2022 American Communities Survey* indicates that per capita income (the metric used to determine average per-person income for an area) in Solano County in 2022 (the latest date the data is available) was \$42,886. This outpaced the national economy per capita income of \$37,683 but was slightly lower than California’s per capita income of \$45,591.

Per the 2022 statistics from the *US Census, 2018-2022 American Community Survey* (the latest date the data is available), Solano County ranks as the fourth lowest in per capita income when compared to the benchmark counties. Solano County’s growth rate in per capita income increased by 16.9% (or \$6,201) between 2021 and 2022, increasing around the same pace as most of the benchmark counties. Solano County’s per capita income of \$42,886 in 2022 is -6% or \$2,705 less than the State’s per capita income of \$45,591.

Because the change in per capita income data lags by one year, the data collected in May 2024 has shown a pretty significant increase in personal income, as it is pulling data collected from 2022; however, data to be collected in 2025 is likely to show a leveling out and / or a slight decrease in personal income, as most people received some kind of government stimulus funding as part of the American Rescue Plan Act, which likely bolstered incomes, and the next data report may include elements of inflation.

**CHART K: CHANGE IN PER CAPITA INCOME IN BENCHMARK COUNTIES – 2022 DATA**



Source: American Community Survey, May 1, 2024 (2022 data)

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### MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME COMPARISONS AMONG BENCHMARK COUNTIES

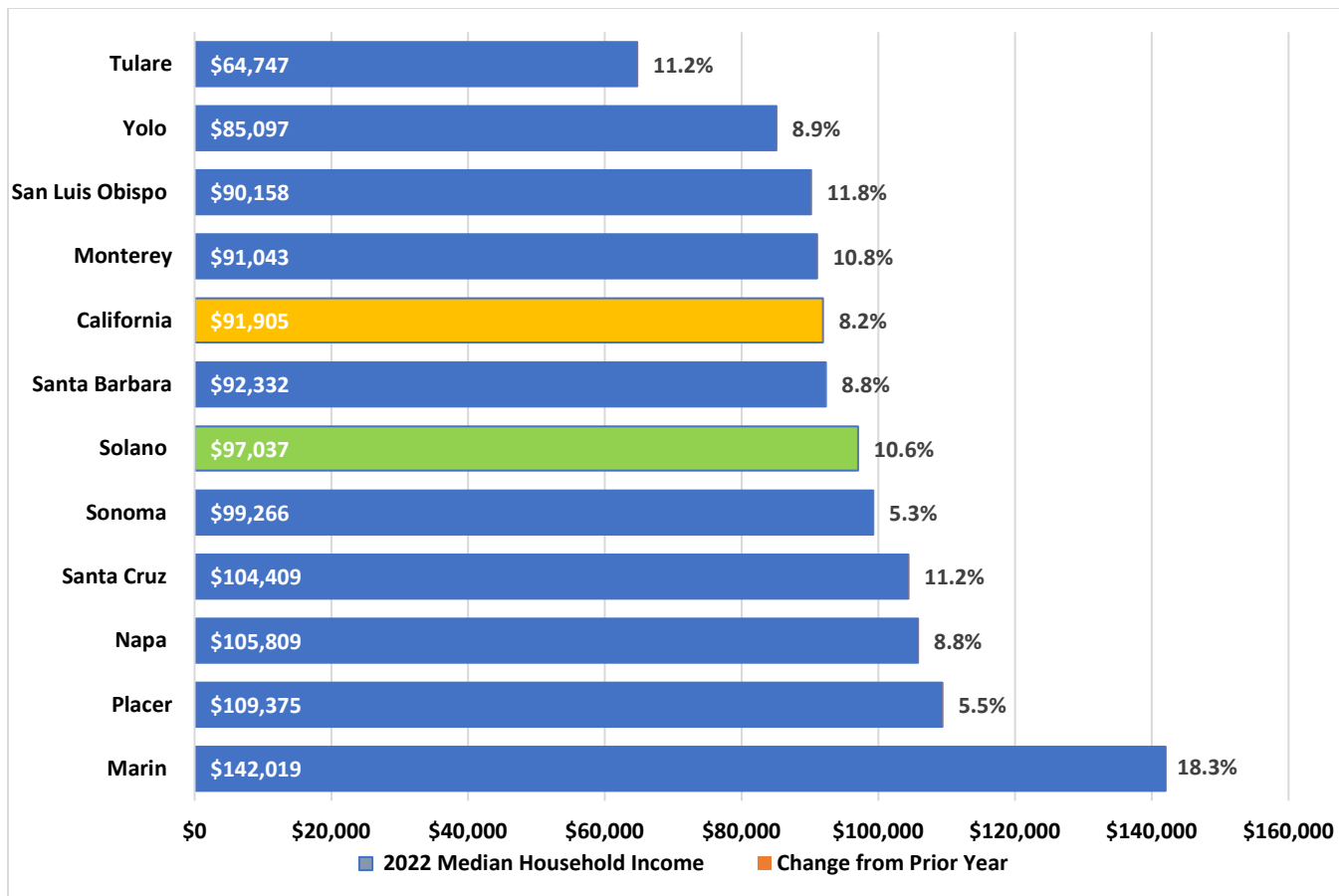
Median household income is comprised of the average income of every resident (within that household) over the age of 15. Sources of income include personal wages and salaries, disability payments, child support payments received, along with personal business earnings, investments, and other routine sources of income.

The *US Census, 2018-2022 American Community Survey* reports that along with per capita income, median household income (MHI) is a good indicator of how typical households generate and use income, including spending and savings.

Per the 2024 statistics from the US Census, Solano County ranks as the sixth highest in MHI when compared to benchmark counties. Solano County's MHI of \$97,037 in 2022 is an increase of \$9,267 per household (or 10.6%) over the previous year (2021). Even with these pretty significant increases, Solano County still sits in the middle of the benchmark counties when comparing MHI, with five counties having a higher MHI, including Marin, Placer, Napa, Santa Cruz, and Sonoma Counties, and five counties with a lower MHI, including Santa Barbara, Monterey, San Luis Obispo, Yolo, and Tulare Counties. It is important to note that all 10 of the ten benchmark counties experienced year-over-year increases in MHI, with Marin County experiencing the highest year-over-year increase of 18.3 percent. Additionally, Solano County outperformed the State of California's MHI of \$91,905 by \$5,132 (or 5.6%).

Because the change in MHI data lags by one year, the data collected in May 2024 has shown an increase in MHI for all 10 of the benchmark counties, as it is pulling data collected from 2022; however, the data collected in 2025 is likely to show a leveling out of MHI for most of the benchmark counties, as most households received American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) stimulus funding due to the COVID-19 pandemic health emergency. Marin County likely lost overall MHI due to the ongoing pandemic and did not receive much ARPA funding, as most households did not qualify for stimulus funding (household income too high).

**CHART L: CHANGE IN MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME IN BENCHMARK COUNTIES – 2022 DATA**



Source: 2018-2022 American Community Survey– Figures are based on 2022 inflation dollars

## **HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE, HOW WE COMPARE**

Health insurance is a means of financing a person's health care expenses. Most people in the United States have private health insurance, primarily through an employer, some obtain coverage through programs offered by the government, while other individuals do not have health insurance at all. Being uninsured greatly influences the services they receive and escalates the costs associated with accessing healthcare. There are many social determinants of health – such as access to food, housing, and economic stability – that are often associated with not having health insurance.

Nationally, in 2022 (the latest date the data are available, according to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention) 8.4% of people, or 27.6 million, did not have health insurance at any point during the year. Between 2020 and 2022, the total population for the United States slightly increased, largely due to changes in deaths, births, and immigration rates, according to the U.S. Census Bureau.

In California, according to the state Department of Finance, the population slightly decreased between 2020 and 2022, and the percentage of uninsured residents decreased slightly from 7.2% in 2020 to 7.1% in 2022. The uninsured rate in California continues to decrease and more people have health insurance since the implementation of the Affordable Care Act (ACA). In 2013, nearly 18 out of 100 people did not have health insurance (17.8%); in 2022 that number dropped to nearly 7 out of 100 people (7.1%).

More people in Solano County have obtained health insurance since the ACA, from 12.9% uninsured in 2013 (51,556 people) to 4.9% uninsured in 2022 (21,383 people), according to the American Community Survey 2018-2022.

## **DEMAND FOR PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS REMAINS HIGH**

Inflation continues to drive food insecurity, increasing demand for public assistance programs in Solano County. In the first quarter of 2024, an average of 51,936 individuals received CalFresh each month, up 3.4% compared to the 2023 average of 50,183. Demand for cash assistance programs has also increased in the first quarter of this year. The volume of applications for CalWORKs has grown 80% since FY2022/23, increasing from 315 per month to 566 per month. Monthly, an average of 8,195 individuals receive CalWORKs cash assistance, up by 0.6% compared to the 2023 average of 8,147. General Assistance loans for indigent adults have also risen in 2024, with an average of 349 monthly recipients compared to 309 monthly recipients in 2023, a 13% increase.

Under the pandemic-driven continuous coverage mandate, Medi-Cal caseloads have continuously grown since 2020. With annual eligibility redetermination requirements resuming in June 2023, it was anticipated that this number would begin to decline in the third quarter of 2023. As of March 2024, 135,198 county residents have health coverage through Medi-Cal. This represents a decrease of 3.7%, which is significantly lower than the State estimates of the number of individuals who would lose eligibility to Medi-Cal once redetermination resumed.

## **COMMUNITY HEALTH ASSESSMENT SURVEY IDENTIFIES TOP HEALTH CONCERNS**

In 2020, the Solano County Health & Social Services Department, Public Health Division, commissioned the Community Health Assessment (CHA), a community-wide survey to capture data for Solano Public Health (SPH) and partners to understand county health issues and emerging trends, and to inform planning. Overall, eight health needs emerged as top concerns in Solano County, including economic security, housing, access to care, education, violence and injury prevention, behavioral health, healthy eating and active living, and maternal and infant health. The CHA is part of an ongoing broader community health improvement process and is developed in preparation for the Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP), which uses CHA data to identify priorities.

Public Health's next steps have been to implement programming aimed at: improving the eight areas identified in the survey; sharing the CHA with community partners to raise awareness of county health issues and emerging trends; collaboratively developing a CHIP published in 2023 to co-create a vision of health for Solano County with the Healthy Solano Collaborative and other local partners and community members; and obtaining Public Health Accreditation. The full survey, its findings and related materials can be found by visiting the Solano County Public Health website, <https://www.SolanoCounty.com/PH>.

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**Bill Emlen, County Administrator**

**COMMUTING DISTANCES IN BENCHMARK COUNTIES**

Per the U.S. Census Bureau, Overflow Data estimates that Californians spend more time in the car than commuters in most other states, with an average drive time of 31.9 minutes one-way. The distance to work also plays a major role in how long workers spend in the car or time spent using regional public transportation as they travel farther and farther to get to their jobs. When compared to benchmark counties, Solano County ranks fourth lowest in the number of drivers who drive less than 10 miles one-way to get to work (39.5%), behind Yolo (33.9%), Marin (35.5%) and Napa (38.9%).

**CHART M: DISTANCE COMMUTERS DRIVE TO GET TO WORK (ONE-WAY)**

BENCHMARK COUNTY	TOTAL DRIVING COMMUTERS	More than 50 miles		25 to 50 miles		10 to 24 miles		Less than 10 miles	
		Count	Share	Count	Share	Count	Share	Count	Share
Yolo	100,398	23,353	23.3%	15,753	15.7%	27,088	27.0%	34,204	33.9%
Marin	103,649	16,345	15.8%	18,998	18.3%	31,531	30.4%	36,775	35.5%
Napa	62,648	11,669	17.0%	3,038	13.1%	21,251	31.0%	26,690	38.9%
<b>Solano</b>	<b>131,442</b>	<b>23,856</b>	<b>18.1%</b>	<b>26,182</b>	<b>19.9%</b>	<b>29,510</b>	<b>22.5%</b>	<b>51,894</b>	<b>39.5%</b>
San Luis Obispo	104,593	23,590	22.6%	9,331	8.9%	29,055	27.8%	42,617	40.7%
Placer	173,129	36,711	21.2%	18,171	10.5%	46,007	26.6%	72,240	41.7%
Monterey	158,118	42,042	26.6%	14,299	9.0%	30,078	19.0%	71,699	45.3%
Santa Barbara	183,171	53,237	29.1%	21,529	11.8%	22,245	12.1%	86,160	47.0%
Tulare	155,499	31,838	20.5%	15,109	9.7%	33,795	21.7%	74,757	48.1%
Santa Cruz	90,169	18,532	20.6%	7,869	8.7%	20,117	22.3%	43,651	48.4%
Sonoma	187,182	37,264	19.9%	18,829	10.1%	36,804	19.7%	94,285	50.4%

Source: Longitudinal Employment and Housing Dynamics, 2022 data set, <http://onthemap.ces.census.gov>

**WHERE PEOPLE CHOOSE TO WORK**

According to the Brookings Institute, proximity to employment can influence a range of economic and social outcomes, from local fiscal health to the employment prospects of residents. For local governments, including in Solano County, where people work plays a role in the revenues generated from the area's commercial and industrial tax base, which can influence local fiscal health and the quality of public services. Solano County ranks sixth among benchmark counties for the number of commuters who both live and work within the county, with Placer, Santa Cruz, Marin, Napa, and Yolo Counties having fewer in-county commuters.

**CHART N: INFLUX / OUTFLOW OF WORKERS IN BENCHMARK COUNTIES**

BENCHMARK COUNTY	TOTAL COMMUTERS INTO AND OUT OF COUNTY	INFLUX OF COMMUTERS		OUTFLOW OF COMMUTERS		NATIVE COMMUTERS	
		Employed In / Live Outside County	Percentage	Employed Outside / Live In County	Percentage	Employed In/ Live In County	Percentage
Sonoma	267,409	62,262	23.3%	80,227	30.0%	124,920	46.7%
Santa Barbara	240,370	68,608	28.5%	57,199	23.8%	114,563	47.7%
Monterey	219,256	56,458	25.7%	61,138	27.9%	101,660	46.4%
Tulare	220,883	54,620	24.7%	65,384	29.6%	100,879	45.7%
San Luis Obispo	143,225	33,481	23.4%	38,632	27.0%	71,112	49.7%
<b>Solano</b>	<b>260,348</b>	<b>68,044</b>	<b>26.1%</b>	<b>128,906</b>	<b>49.5%</b>	<b>63,398</b>	<b>24.4%</b>
Placer	280,317	111,251	39.7%	107,188	38.2%	61,878	22.1%
Santa Cruz	144,445	37,821	26.2%	54,276	37.6%	52,348	36.2%
Marin	169,460	66,195	39.1%	65,811	38.8%	37,454	22.1%
Napa	101,643	37,848	37.2%	32,995	32.5%	30,800	30.3%
Yolo	157,119	69,746	44.4%	56,915	36.2%	30,458	19.4%

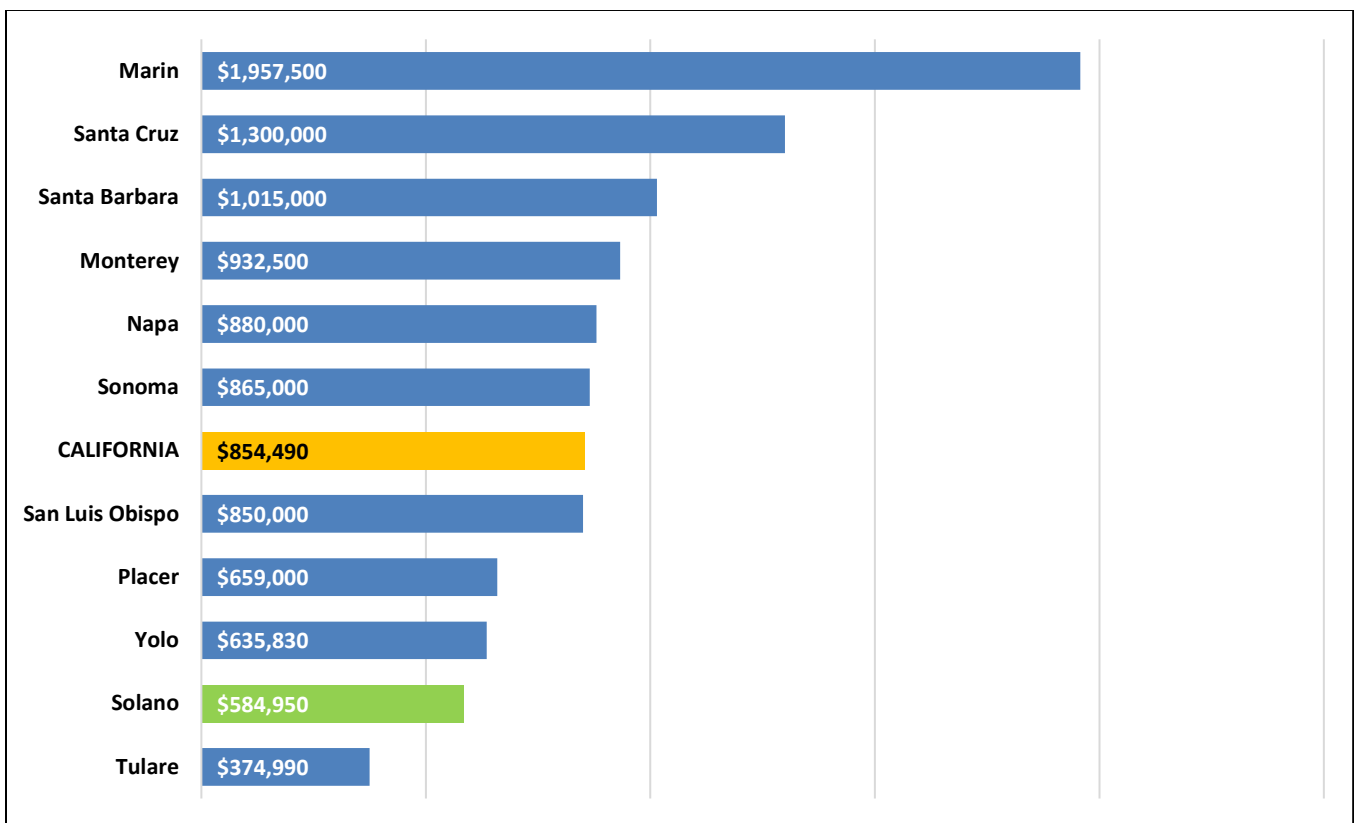
Source: United States Census Bureau, <http://data.census.gov>

**HOUSING AFFORDABILITY**

The California Association of REALTORS® reports that Solano County’s median home price in March 2024, the latest the data was available, was \$584,950, which remained flat when compared to March 2023. Housing prices in Solano County remain significantly more affordable when compared to the eight other counties that comprise the greater Bay Area (Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, Napa, San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara, and Sonoma Counties), where the average home price is \$1,386,000 (March 2024).

Solano County ranks second in housing affordability among the ten benchmark counties and four positions under the statewide average as illustrated in the bar chart below. The average home price in Solano County is 31.5% or \$269,540 lower than the State average. Solano County’s average home price is \$50,880 or 8.7% less than the next highest benchmark county, Yolo County, and \$1,372,550 or 235% less than the most expensive of the benchmark counties, Marin County.

**CHART O: AVERAGE HOUSING PRICES WHEN COMPARED TO BENCHMARK COUNTIES**



*Source: The California Association of REALTORS®*

**CHART P: SOLANO CITIES MEDIAN HOME VALUES, YEAR-OVER-YEAR, MARCH 2023 to MARCH 2024**

CITY	March 1, 2024	March 1, 2023	% Change
Benicia	\$798,000	\$799,000	-0.1%
Dixon	\$642,600	\$660,000	-2.6%
Fairfield	\$629,000	\$635,000	-0.9%
Rio Vista	\$487,900	\$459,000	6.3%
Suisun City	\$546,000	\$537,000	1.7%
Vacaville	\$634,500	\$615,000	3.2%
Vallejo	\$542,500	\$520,000	4.3%

*Source: The California Association of REALTORS®*

**Solano County Statistical Profile**  
**Bill Emlen, County Administrator**

**SINGLE-FAMILY HOME AND APARTMENT RENTAL PRICES**

Rental prices have remained relatively flat over the past year in Solano County, with rentals in four of the seven cities going up (Benicia, Vacaville, Fairfield, and Dixon) and three cities going down (Vallejo, Suisun City and Rio Vista). Per Zillow Research, in May 2023, the average rental price for two-bedroom apartments in Solano County was \$1,987 per month. In May 2024, that figure was \$2,027 per month, an increase of 2.0%.

According to Zillow Research, a division of the Zillow Group Real Estate Company, the average price of a two-bedroom apartment in Solano County continues to rise modestly year-over-year. By comparison, the average two-bedroom apartment in San Francisco County is \$3,287, 62% higher than in Solano County. It should be noted that while the COVID-19 pandemic health emergency caused rental prices in the San Francisco Bay Area to drop temporarily as people left the city to work remotely, those prices have returned to pre-pandemic levels.

Regional fires in 2017, 2018, and 2020 may have placed additional pressure on rental pricing in Solano County. In contrast, Sacramento County has consistently been between \$200 and \$300 less than Solano County since 2011 in terms of rental prices, including single-family homes and one and two-bedroom apartments.

The table below illustrates the year-over-year change in the median cost to rent a two-bedroom apartment in each of Solano County’s seven cities. The City of Benicia has the highest rent, as of May 1, 2024, at \$2,337 per month, whereas the City of Rio Vista has the lowest rent at \$1,449 per month. Rental prices increased the most in the City of Dixon at 14.7% and decreased the most in Rio Vista at -0.4%.

**CHART Q: SOLANO CITIES MEDIAN HOME/RENTALS COST, YEAR-OVER-YEAR CHANGE, 2023-2024**

CITY	May 1, 2024	May 1, 2023	% Change
Benicia	\$2,337	\$2,251	3.8%
Vacaville	\$2,240	\$2,206	1.5%
Fairfield	\$2,218	\$2,146	3.4%
Vallejo	\$2,061	\$2,064	-0.1%
Dixon	\$2,031	\$1,771	14.7%
Suisun City	\$2,015	\$2,022	-0.3%
Rio Vista	\$1,449	\$1,455	-0.4%

*Source: Zillow Research, a division of the Zillow Group Real Estate Company*

**HOUSING AND RENTAL MARKET BIG PICTURE**

Between March 2020 and December 2023, the median price of housing in Solano County increased 26.6%, according to Zillow Research. In December 2023, the median price of a single-family home was approximately \$586,360 in Solano County, compared to \$781,740 in California as a whole; the statewide median home price was \$756,900 a year earlier. Housing price forecasts for Solano County and the Bay Area are anticipated to drop slightly for 2024 and perhaps 2025. As of March 2024, Solano County home prices had fallen since the peak in 2022 and forecasted to fall by just 0.6% between March 2024 and March 2025. Rental costs experienced a slight increase at the median rental price in 2023 (approximately \$42) in Solano County. Across the State median rental prices fell slightly, a sign of softening inflation pressures for lower-and middle-income workers.

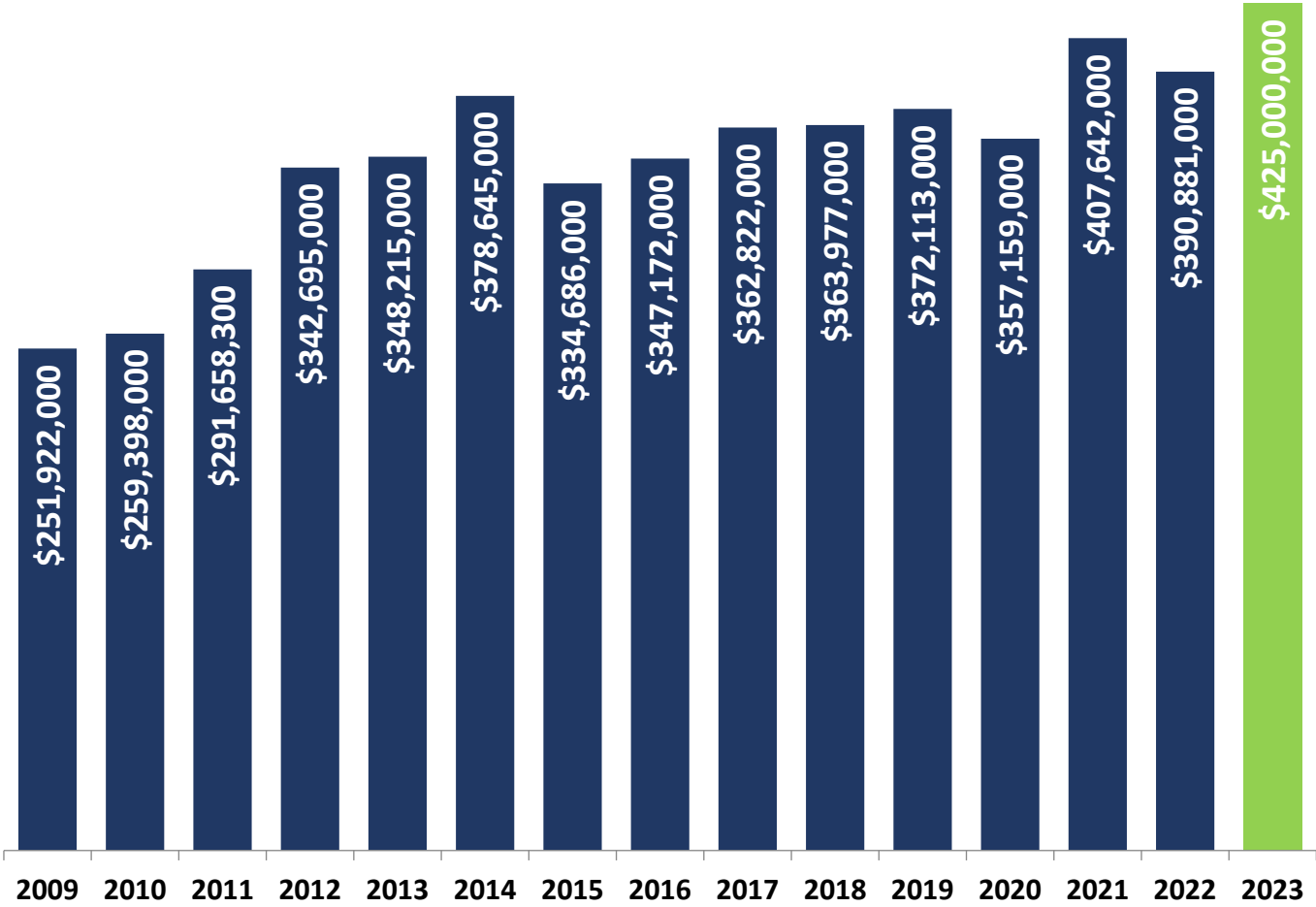
**SOLANO COUNTY AGRICULTURAL CROP AND LIVESTOCK VALUE**

Solano County Department of Agriculture, Weights and Measures is still working with local growers to determine farm gate value (the net value of a product when it leaves the farm and after marketing costs have been subtracted) for 2023. Early estimates by the department put this figure at \$425,000,000, a potential increase of over \$34 million or 8.7% compared to the previous year's total of \$390,881,000.

Processing tomatoes, almonds, nursery products, cattle, and winegrapes are the top crops for 2023. Solano County farmers produce more than 100 different commodities including fruits, nuts, vegetables, grains, seeds, nursery stock, livestock, poultry, and apiary products and services.

According to the State of California Employment and Development Department's (EDD) March 2024 report, Solano County supports approximately 1,300 farm related jobs, an 18.2% increase from the previous year. While agricultural jobs only make up a small fraction of all jobs in the County (less than 1%), agricultural production is part of a much larger industry cluster that spans the full spectrum of economic activity, including activity before crops get into the field to the value-added processing in consumer products. The Moving Solano Forward (MSF) III project identifies this food-chain cluster as supporting more than 8,750 jobs and \$1.55 billion in economic output (as of 2021, the latest date the data is available), representing approximately 7.9% of the County's total \$19.73 billion-dollar Gross Regional Product.

**CHART R: 2023 ESTIMATED GROSS AGRICULTURE CROP VALUES FOR SOLANO COUNTY**



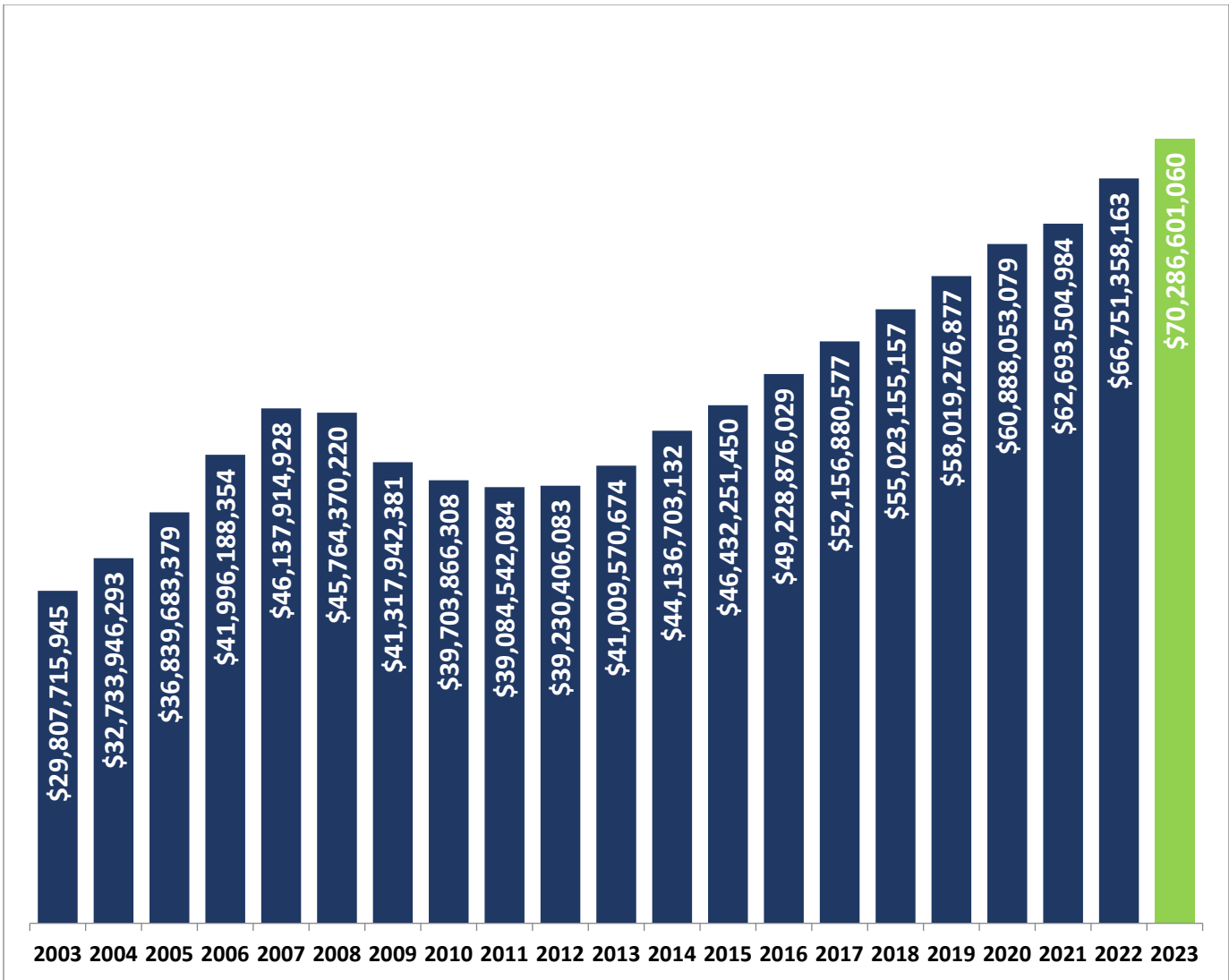
Source: County of Solano Agricultural Commissioner (\*early estimates for the 2023 Crop Report)

**COUNTY ASSESSED VALUES AND GROWTH**

Property taxes are a major source of local governmental revenues and are determined by assessed values. The annual property tax rate throughout the State of California is 1% of assessed values. The FY2023/24 Property Assessment Roll of nearly \$70.29 billion increased 5.3% or \$3.5 billion from the prior year’s roll value and represents property ownership in Solano County as of January 1, 2023. This is the eleventh year of increasing assessed values since the bottom of the market in 2011. The residential real estate market showed steady growth over the prior year (January 1, 2022, to January 1, 2023), while new construction continues to add value to the County’s property tax roll.

As real estate market values have risen over time, the number of properties in Proposition 8 status – which is a temporary reduction in a property value below the established Proposition 13 base year value – has decreased. There are currently 4,487 parcels in Proposition 8 status. The number of parcels in Proposition 8 status peaked in 2012 at 78,000 parcels. As of June 2023, there are currently 154,247 individual parcels countywide, spread between the seven cities and unincorporated county.

**CHART S: LOCAL ASSESSED VALUES FOR SOLANO COUNTY**



Source: County of Solano, Assessor-Recorder’s Office, June 2023



**BUILDING PERMITS IN SOLANO COUNTY**

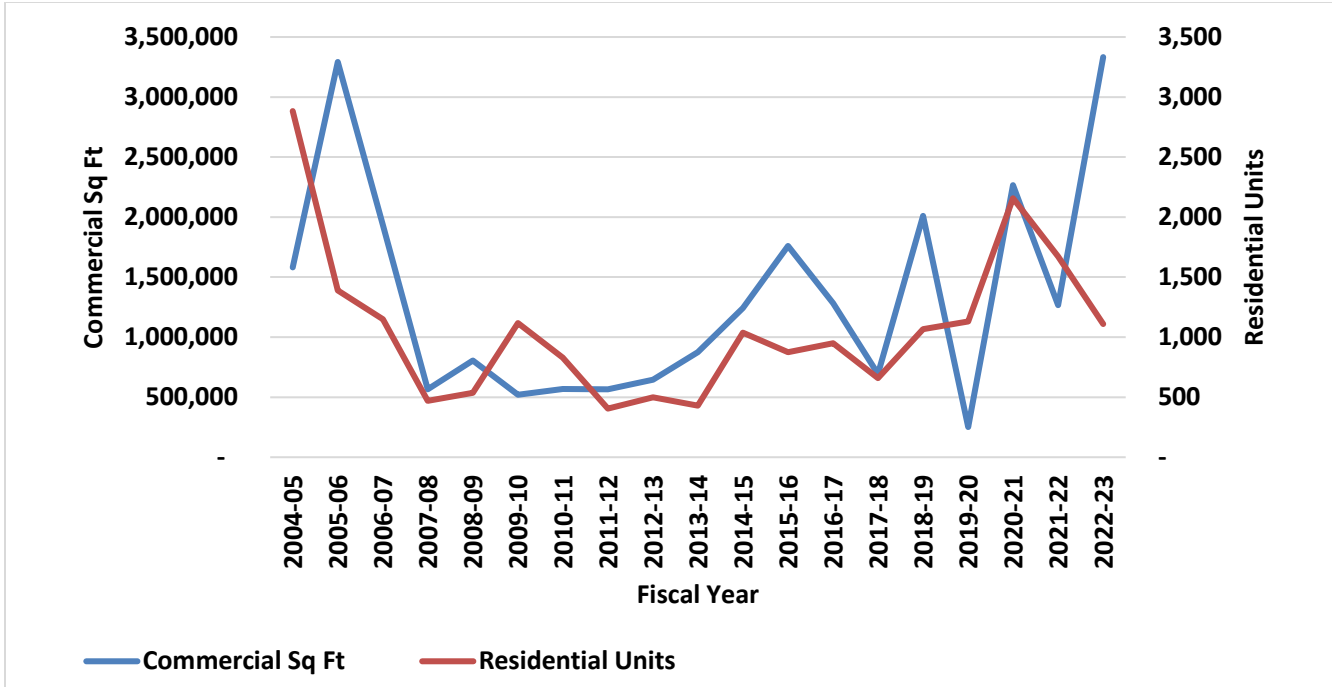
Per the County of Solano and the US Census Bureau for Construction Spending, the 2023 Index of Economic and Community Progress (forthcoming in June 2024) tracks new building permits annually. Changes in building permit activity generally act as a leading indicator of overall economic activity, predicting growth of construction jobs and demand for raw materials to build residential and commercial units.

Solano County’s commercial real estate building permit activity increased sharply in FY2022/23 compared to FY2021/22. Commercial construction increased by over 3.3 million new square feet of space between July 2022 and June 2023 (the previous fiscal year permitted increased over 1.2 million square feet). According to Colliers International, office-vacancy rates in Solano County increased during 2023 to 24.5% by the end of Quarter 4 2023, with rents rising slightly to \$2.60 per square foot as 2023 ended.

Building permits for residential units in Solano County decreased in FY 2021/22 and FY2022/23 after a strong fiscal year in 2020/21 (2,157 units). As interest rates began to rise, and the costs of construction remained elevated, permitting slowed. There were 1,109 residential building permits issued in FY2022/23 by Solano County, a decrease from 1,673 the previous fiscal year. Increased interest rates likely slowed residential permits versus commercial, but commercial permits are also projected to slow down in the next Fiscal Year (in quarters 1 and 2 of fiscal year 2023/24, the commercial square footage permitted has slowed dramatically).

The chart below indicates that new-home building permits grew at a slower pace, permitting 2,782 units in the last two fiscal years. New commercial space permitted continues to demonstrate a pace of growth that remains volatile since FY2015/16. Office, retail, and restaurant space remain at risk of longer durations of vacancy, and perhaps little change in demand. New commercial space is more likely to be used for industrial and warehousing sectors, with a slower pace of growth through the remainder of this decade. Concerns over office and retail space in Solano County need to be monitored closely in the future.

**CHART T: SOLANO COUNTY RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL BUILDING PERMITS, FISCAL YEARS 2004-2005 TO 2022-2023 / COMMERCIAL SQUARE FEET AND RESIDENTIAL UNITS PERMITTED**



*Sources: (1) U.S. Census Bureau  
(2) 2023 Index of Economic and Community Progress via the County of Solano*

**Solano County Statistical Profile**  
**Bill Emlen, County Administrator**

**2011 PUBLIC SAFETY REALIGNMENT AND ASSEMBLY BILL 109**

Due to the passage of Assembly Bill 109 (AB 109, Public Safety Realignment) in October 2011, the Solano County jail population has changed over time. As of March 1, 2024, the County jail was housing 27 parole violators (known as 3056 PC), 23 Post Release Community Supervision (PRCS) violators, and 24 locally sentenced offenders (known as 1170 offenders) making up approximately one-quarter of the jail population.

Prior to Public Safety Realignment, the County jail population consisted of individuals awaiting trial and inmates serving sentences of less than one year. Today, after realignment, some convicted individuals are now serving sentences up to ten years in local county jails rather than in State prisons.

To address the evolving inmate population resulting from AB 109, the County increased capacity within the jail system and incorporated training programs into the jails. Training programs, like those offered at the Rourk Vocational Training Center at the Claybank / Stanton Correctional Facility in Fairfield, provide offenders with additional skills to enhance their ability to successfully re-enter the community. Non-serious, non-violent, non-sex (non-non-non) offenders have transitioned from supervision by State parole officers to County probation officers. While this shift did not increase the population of supervised offenders in Solano County, it shifted the supervising agency, leaving counties to address supervision and mandated parole programs designed to reduce recidivism.

**CHART U: SNAPSHOT – CHANGES IN POPULATION UNDER SUPERVISION IN SOLANO COUNTY JAILS**

	Solano County Probation			Solano County Sheriff - Custody				Total
	PRCS	1170h PC	Adults	3056 PC	1170h PC	PRCS	Other	
March 1, 2022	407	64	1,743	37	29	40	475	2,795
March 1, 2023	384	44	1,711	29	28	40	436	2,672
March 1, 2024	402	20	1,735	27	24	23	420	2,651
Change from 2023	<b>18</b>	<b>(24)</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>(2)</b>	<b>(4)</b>	<b>(17)</b>	<b>(16)</b>	<b>(21)</b>
% Change	4.69%	-54.55%	1.40%	-6.90%	-14.29%	-42.50%	-3.67%	-0.79%
Change from 2022	<b>(5)</b>	<b>(44)</b>	<b>(8)</b>	<b>(10)</b>	<b>(5)</b>	<b>(17)</b>	<b>(55)</b>	<b>(144)</b>
% Change	-1.23%	-68.75%	-0.46%	-27.03%	-17.24%	-42.50%	-11.58%	-5.15%

*Source: 2024, Solano County Community Corrections Partnership and California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation*

**AB 1950 – PROBATION, LENGTH OF TERMS**

With the passage of Assembly Bill 1950 (AB 1950), Probation, Length of Terms in September 2020, the length of probation in both misdemeanor and felony cases was shortened. Under this law, probation is capped at one year for misdemeanors and two years for felonies. There are some exceptions, however: AB 1950 does not apply to financial crimes involving more than \$25,000, crimes “that includes specific probation lengths within its provisions,” and violent felonies.

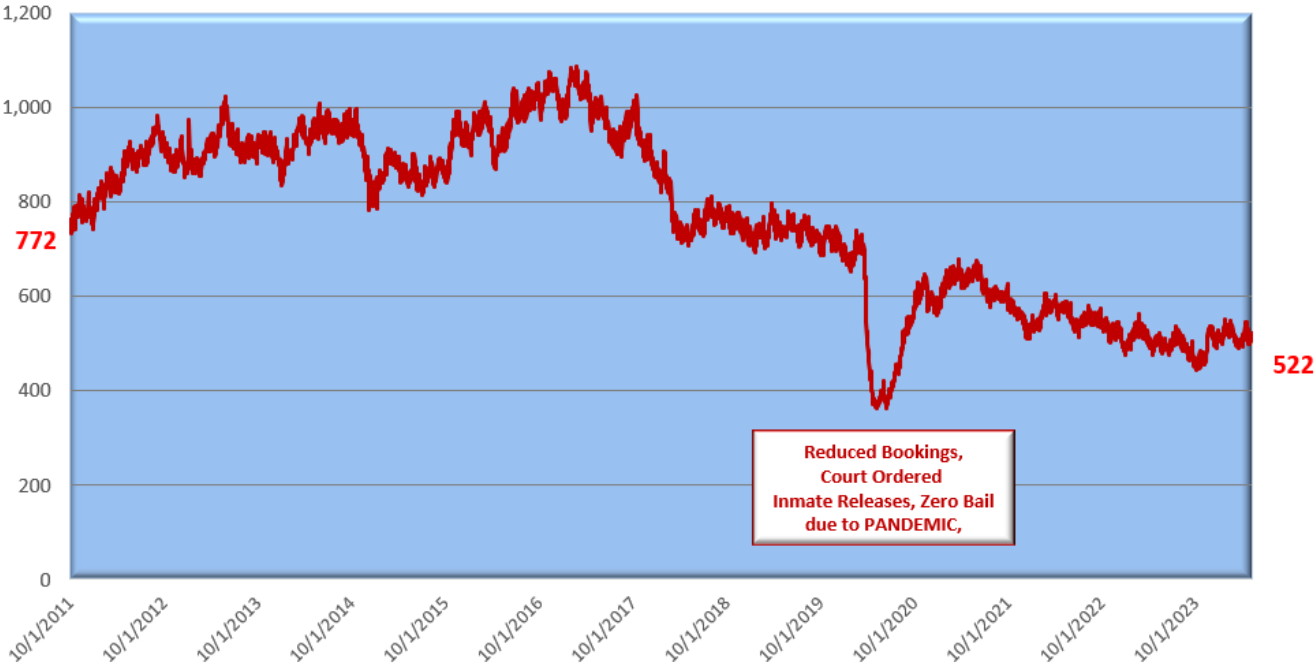
Before AB 1950, most misdemeanor offenses were punishable by three years of probation, and most felony offenses were punishable by five years of probation. This meant that people could be sent to jail for probation violations years after they were convicted of a crime, and because there are numerous ways to violate probation, many people were arrested or sentenced to additional jail time for doing so. However, because AB 1950 reduces the amount of time someone is on probation, people are less likely to violate their probation and return to jail. In Solano County, the Probation Department has seen a reduction in the number of adult probationers (also known as Formal Supervision cases) as a direct result of the implementation of AB 1950.

SNAPSHOT – JAIL POPULATION TREND, OCTOBER 1, 2011 – MAY 6, 2024



# Jail Population Trend

October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2011 – May 6<sup>th</sup>, 2024



Source: Solano County Sheriff's Office, May 6, 2024

On October 1, 2011 – the day AB 109 went into effect – the Solano County 30-day average daily jail population totaled 772 inmates. As illustrated in the chart above, over the next twelve and one-half years, the average daily jail population grew and contracted several times. The largest contraction took place between late February and early March 2020, which is a result of emergency measures taken by the State, local courts, and the Sheriff to address increased concerns regarding the COVID-19 pandemic emergency and the associated medical risks of contracting the virus.

The long-term pre-COVID-19 decrease in the County's jail population (jail population peaking in 2016) can be attributed to many factors, including an increase in pre-trial releases; split sentencing by the Courts, reducing time served; implementation of the Humphrey Decision (January 2018), whereby judges may consider offender's ability to post bail and when appropriate, reduce bail amounts; bail alternatives; and the reduction of leased jail beds (March 2018). The Solano County Sheriff continues to see an increase in the number of inmates requiring Administrative Separation (AdSep). Inmates requiring AdSep are more prone to disrupt jail operations and therefore placed in a cell by themselves – a cell that would normally house two inmates.

**Solano County Statistical Profile**  
**Bill Emlen, County Administrator**

**Principal Taxpayers with over \$50,000,000 in Assessed Value for FY2023-24**

Principal Property Tax Payers	Parcels	Assessed Value	Total Taxes
KAISER FOUNDATION HOSPITALS	5	\$1,445,108,507	\$1,084,629
PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY	5	\$1,079,017,360	\$19,008,682
VALERO REFINING COMPANY CALIF	28	\$877,285,650	\$10,453,538
GENENTECH INC	27	\$743,991,192	\$8,704,765
ANHEUSER-BUSCH COMM STRAT LLC	2	\$330,669,631	\$3,765,389
NORTHBAY HEALTHCARE GROUP	12	\$305,867,585	\$968,238
STAR-WEST SOLANO LLC	7	\$204,890,988	\$2,418,570
PW FUND A LP	8	\$181,874,061	\$2,197,463
INVITATION HOMES INC	414	\$167,812,867	\$2,148,019
ICON OWNER POOL 1 SF N-B P LLC	28	\$151,813,787	\$1,811,287
FLANNERY ASSOCIATES LLC	206	\$143,957,560	\$1,655,088
REEP-IND STANFORD COURT CA LLC	1	\$139,740,000	\$1,491,740
NELLA NT, LLC	10	\$127,294,996	\$1,714,309
SOLANO 3 WIND LLC	1	\$124,649,926	\$1,349,959
SHILOH IV WIND PROJECT LLC	1	\$120,812,855	\$1,308,403
COLONY STARWOOD HOMES	296	\$120,500,575	\$1,526,566
CPG FINANCE II LLC	3	\$118,190,516	\$1,579,688
SHILOH WIND PROJECT II LLC	1	\$117,978,910	\$1,277,712
SHILOH WIND PROJECT III LLC	1	\$114,899,963	\$1,244,367
CORDELIA WINERY LLC	22	\$113,037,548	\$1,298,234
TGA MIDWAY DIST CENTER LLC	1	\$112,710,000	\$1,351,535
GATEWAY 80 OWNER LP	4	\$109,364,607	\$1,323,477
TRAVIS WAY LLC	1	\$105,777,939	\$1,238,671
PARK MANAGEMENT CORP	2	\$103,874,631	\$1,335,702
THE NIMITZ GROUP	103	\$99,336,223	\$1,999,808
MEYER COOKWARE INDUSTRIES INC	7	\$98,220,930	\$1,147,486
MG NORTH POINTE APARTMENTS LLC	2	\$93,981,743	\$1,115,785
RANGER NORTHBAY LLC	2	\$92,075,400	\$1,107,736
CENTRO WATT PROPERTY OWNER II	8	\$91,563,906	\$1,211,145
APS WEST COAST INC	27	\$85,654,239	\$1,018,083
NEXTERA ENERGY MONTZMA II WIND	1	\$82,994,167	\$898,827
NORTH BAY LOGISTICS OWNER LLC	1	\$76,469,400	\$864,833
ARDAGH METAL BEVERAGE USA INC	1	\$74,624,301	\$791,507
BRIDGE WF II CA 766 SUNSET LLC	1	\$73,560,851	\$843,890
CSCDA COMTY IMPROVEMENT AUTH	1	\$71,804,600	\$803,987
TLUS SP SUISUN OWNER, LLC	1	\$71,400,000	\$830,644
WRPV XIII BV VALLEJO LLC	2	\$69,244,548	\$1,013,901
PW FUND B LP	12	\$68,297,183	\$801,122
PRIME ASCOT LP	282	\$67,518,124	\$1,336,304
BALL METAL BEVERAGE CONT CORP	3	\$66,442,156	\$706,758
WAL-MART REAL ESTATE BUS TRUST	5	\$64,051,657	\$735,630
SEQUOIA EQUITIES-RIVER OAKS	2	\$63,472,812	\$750,144
N/A ROLLING OAKS-88 LP	1	\$63,219,326	\$732,736
CSCDA COMM IMPROVMENT AUTH	1	\$62,971,146	\$729,054
CAMDEN PARC RESIDENTIAL LLC	2	\$60,351,264	\$703,487
STATE COMPENSATION INSRN FUND	4	\$59,664,848	\$731,094
NORTH VILLAGE DEVELOPMENT INC	2	\$53,009,724	\$694,121
COMCAST E SAN FERNANDO VLY LP	4	\$50,677,055	\$575,975

**\*NOTE:** The tax obligation is calculated at 1 percent + voter approved bonds and any special assessments. Rates may vary by Tax Area Code.

**\$8,921,727,257.**

**\$94,400,088**

Source: County of Solano, Tax Collector/County Clerk, May 2024