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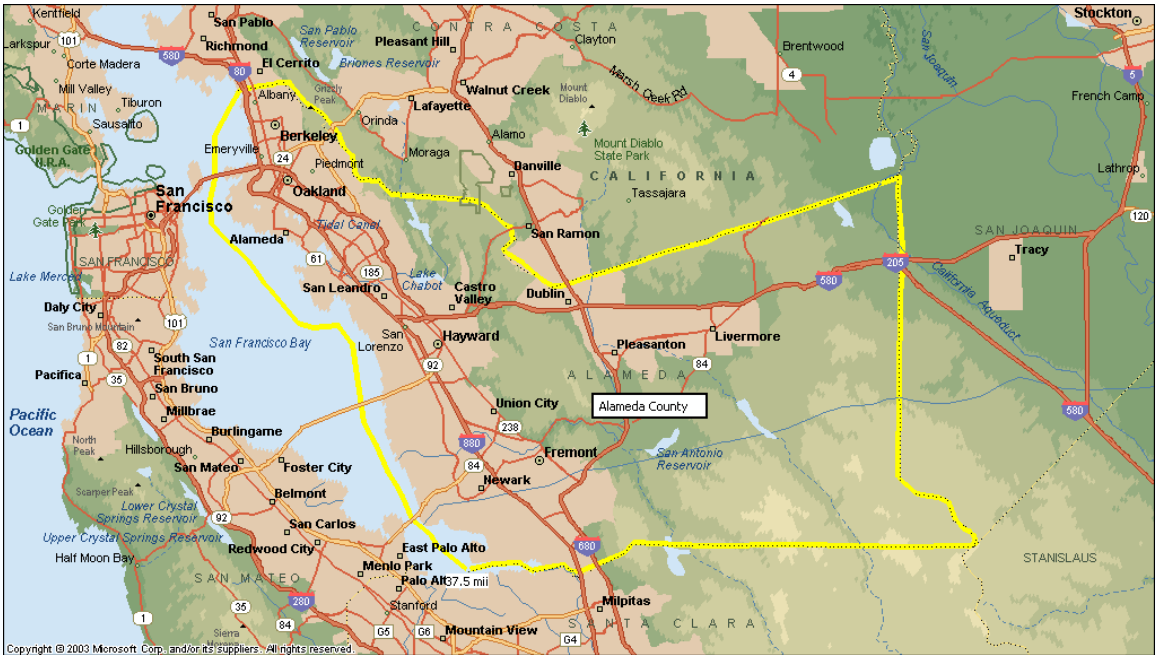
## Redefining the Relocation Process

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# Alameda County Relocation Guide

*Alameda County Description and Information*



# Alameda County, California

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

**Alameda County** is a [county](#) in the [U.S. state](#) of [California](#). It occupies most of the [East Bay](#) region of the [San Francisco Bay Area](#). As of the 2000 census it had a population of 1,443,741. Making it the 7th largest county in the state. The [county seat](#) is [Oakland](#).

Alameda County currently has the highest sales tax rate in California, which is 8.75%.

## History

The county was formed on [March 25, 1853](#) from portions of [Contra Costa](#) and [Santa Clara](#) counties.

The word 'alameda' means 'a place where poplar trees grow', a name which originally was given to El Arroyo de la Alameda (Alameda Creek). The willow and sycamore trees along the banks of the river reminded the early explorers of a road lined with trees, also known as an 'alameda'.

The county seat at the time it was formed was located at [Alvarado](#); it was moved to [San Leandro](#) in [1856](#) where it was destroyed by the devastating 1868 quake on the [Hayward Fault](#). The county seat was then re-established in the town of Brooklyn from [1872-1875](#). Brooklyn is now part of [Oakland](#), which has been the county seat since [1873](#).

Much of what is now considered an intensively [urban](#) region, with major cities, was developed as a [trolley car suburb](#) of [San Francisco](#) in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. The historical progression from native American tribal lands to Spanish Land Grants, thence to farms, ranches, and orchards, suburbs and eventually cities, is shared with the adjacent [Contra Costa County](#) (see that article for an extensive history applicable to this county).

## Events

The annual Alameda County fair is held at the fairgrounds in [Pleasanton](#). The fair runs for 3 weekends from June to July. Attractions include horse racing, carnival, 4H exhibits, and live bands.

## Geography

According to the [U.S. Census Bureau](#), the county has a total area of 2,127 [km<sup>2</sup>](#) (821 [mi<sup>2</sup>](#)). 1,910 [km<sup>2</sup>](#) (738 [mi<sup>2</sup>](#)) of it is land and 216 [km<sup>2</sup>](#) (84 [mi<sup>2</sup>](#)) of it (10.18%) is water.

The San Francisco Bay borders the county on the west. The crest of the [Berkeley Hills](#) form part of the northeastern boundary, and reach into the center of the county. A coastal plain several miles wide lines the bay, being home to Oakland and the most populated regions. Livermore Valley lies in the east part of the county.

The [Hayward Fault](#), a major branch of the San Andreas Fault to the west, runs through the heart of Alameda County.

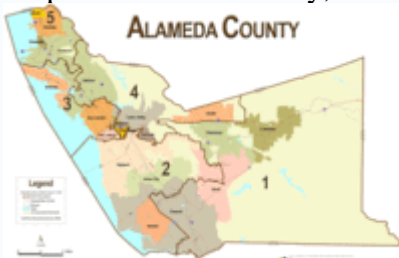
## Adjacent Counties

- [Santa Clara County, California](#) - south
- [San Mateo County, California](#) - west
- [San Francisco County, California](#) - west
- [Contra Costa County, California](#) - north
- [San Joaquin County, California](#) - east

## Demographics



Map Alameda of County, 1878 (Six Townships)





## Supervisorial Map of Alameda County Today (17 cities, 3 of them unincorporated)

As of the [census<sup>2</sup>](#) of 2000, there were 1,443,741 people, 523,366 households, and 339,141 families residing in the county. The [population density](#) was 756/km<sup>2</sup> (1,957/mi<sup>2</sup>). There were 540,183 housing units at an average density of 283/km<sup>2</sup> (732/mi<sup>2</sup>). The racial makeup of the county was 48.79% [White](#), 20.45% [Asian](#), 14.93% [Black](#) or [African American](#), 8.94% from [other races](#), 5.63% from two or more races, 18.97% [Hispanic](#) or [Latino](#) of any race, 0.63% [Native American](#), and 0.63% [Pacific Islander](#).

There were 523,366 households out of which 32.60% had children under the age of 18 living within them, 47.00% [married couples](#) living together, 13.00% had a female householder with no husband present, and 35.20% were non-families. 26.00% of all households were made up of individuals and 7.30% had someone living alone who was 65 years of age or older. The average household size was 2.71 and the average family size was 3.31.

In the county the population was spread out with 24.60% under the age of 18, 9.60% from 18 to 24, 33.90% from 25 to 44, 21.70% from 45 to 64, and 10.20% who were 65 years of age or older. The median age was 34 years. For every 100 females there were 96.60 males. For every 100 females age 18 and over, there were 94.00 males.

The median income for a household in the county was \$55,946, and the median income for a family was \$65,857. Males had a median income of \$47,425 versus \$36,921 for females. The [per capita income](#) for the county was \$26,680. About 7.70% of families and 11.00% of the population were below the [poverty line](#), including 13.50% of those under age 18 and 8.10% of those age 65 or over.

## Politics

### Presidential elections results

Year	<a href="#">GOP</a>	<a href="#">Dems</a>
<a href="#">2004</a>	23.3% 130,911	<b>75.2%</b> 422,585
<a href="#">2000</a>	24.1% 119,279	<b>69.4%</b> 342,889

## Arts

- Home to the [Alameda County Arts Commission](#) which serves the arts in Alameda County.
- Home to the [Alameda Civic Ballet](#) (ACB).
- Home to the [Alameda Ballet Academy](#), official ballet school of the ACB.

## Cities and towns



 Alameda County Court House in Oakland

- [Alameda](#)
- [Albany](#)
- [Ashland](#)
- [Berkeley](#)
- [Castro Valley](#)
- [Cherryland](#)
- [Dublin](#)
- [Emeryville](#)
- [Fairview](#)
- [Fremont](#)

- [Hayward](#)
- [Livermore](#)
- [Mount Eden](#)
- [Newark](#)
- [Oakland](#)
- [Piedmont](#)
- [Pleasanton](#)
- [San Leandro](#)
- [San Lorenzo](#)
- [Sunol](#)
- [Union City](#)

### **Former townships**

- Oakland Township
- Alameda Township
- Brooklyn Township
- Eden Township
- Washington Township
- Murray Township

### **Interesting places to visit**

- [University of California, Berkeley](#)
- [Lawrence Hall of Science](#)
- [Tilden Regional Park](#)
- [Sunol Water Temple](#)