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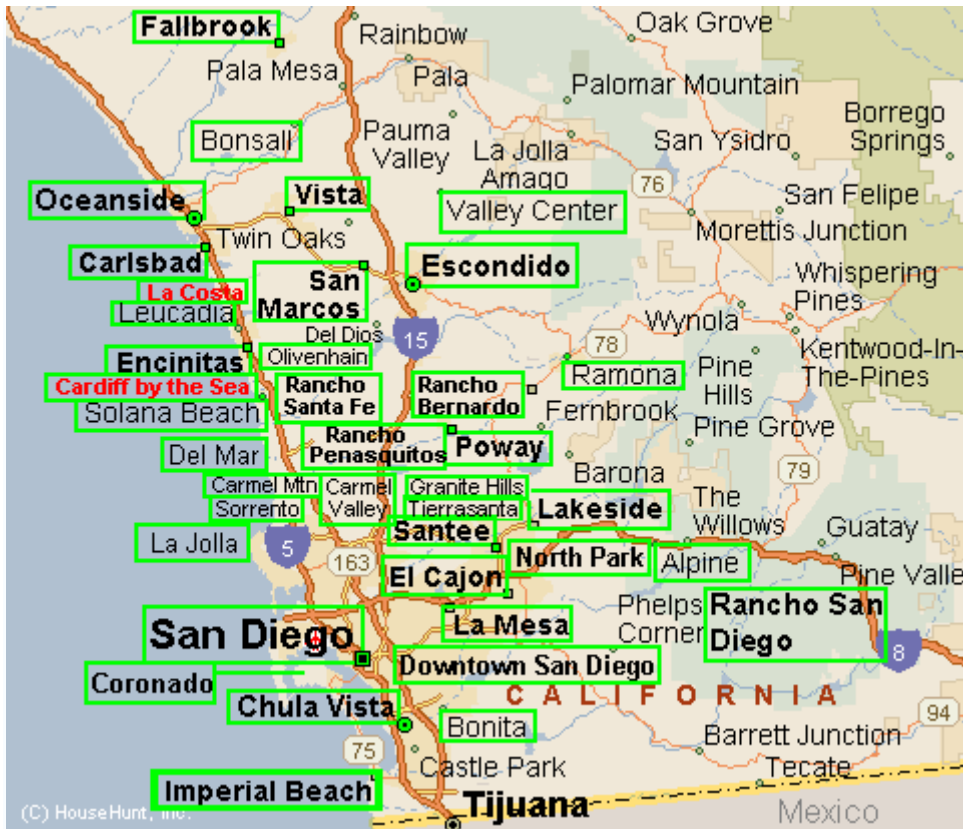
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San Diego County Relocation Guide

San Diego County Description and Information



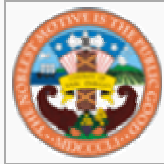
San Diego County, California

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

County of San Diego, California



[Flag](#)



[Seal](#)

Official website: <http://www.co.san-diego.ca.us/>

Location



Location of San Diego County within [California](#).

San Diego County is a [county](#) located on the [Pacific Ocean](#) in the far southwest of the [U.S. state](#) of [California](#), along its border with [Mexico](#). With a population of 3,051,280 (as

of 2005), it is the third largest county by population in the state. The [county seat](#) is the [city](#) of [San Diego](#).

History

European settlement in what is now San Diego County began with the founding of the [Mission San Diego de Alcalá](#) by the [Spanish](#), in [1769](#).

San Diego County was one of the original counties of California, and was created at the time of statehood in [1850](#). It was named after [San Diego Bay](#), which had been rechristened in [1602](#) by [Sebastián Vizcaíno](#) in honor of the [Franciscan St. Didacus of Alcalá](#), known in [Spanish](#) as San Diego de Alcalá de Henares, and whose name was borne by Vizcaíno's flagship.

Parts of the county were later divided off to create [Riverside County](#), in [1893](#), and [Imperial County](#), in [1907](#).

Geography

According to the [U.S. Census Bureau](#), the county has a total area of [11,721 km²](#) ([4,526 mi²](#)). [10,878 km²](#) ([4,200 mi²](#)) of it is land and [843 km²](#) ([326 mi²](#)) of it ([7.20%](#)) is water.

San Diego County has varied topography. On its western side is seventy miles of coastline. Snow-capped mountains rise to the northeast, with the [Sonoran Desert](#) to the far east. The [Cleveland National Forest](#) lies to the southeast.

[North San Diego County](#) is known locally as "North County".

Adjacent Counties

- - [Imperial County, California](#) - (east)
 - [Orange County, California](#) - (northwest)
 - [Riverside County, California](#) - (north)

Sites of interest

- [Mount Laguna Observatory](#) - owned and operated by [San Diego State University \(SDSU\)](#)
- [Palomar Observatory](#) - owned and primarily operated by [California Institute of Technology \(CalTech\)](#)
- The [Ramona Valley](#) wine-producing region is located 28 [miles](#) (45 [km](#)) northeast of [San Diego](#)
- The [San Diego Wild Animal Park](#), 35 miles north of the [San Diego Zoo](#) and east of Escondido

Politics

Traditionally, San Diego County was solidly Republican — it even voted for Barry Goldwater in 1964. The reason for the county's Republican lean despite the city of San Diego's Democratic lean is the suburbs. While San Diego, Encinitas, National City, Del Mar, and some other areas voted for John Kerry, suburbs like San Marcos, Escondido, Carlsbad, Oceanside, Coronado, Santee, Poway, El Cajon, and Vista were overwhelmingly backing George W. Bush. Chula Vista, La Mesa, Lemon Grove, Solana Beach, and Imperial Beach are considered swing areas of the county - Chula Vista and Imperial Beach narrowly backed Al Gore in 2000 but narrowly voted for Bush in 2004, while Solana Beach switched from Bush in 2000 to Kerry in 2004. La Mesa narrowly voted Bush both times, and Lemon Grove narrowly went Democratic both times.

One unique feature of the political scene is the use of *Golden Hall*, a convention facility next to City Hall, as a central elections center. The County Registrar of Voters rents the hall to distribute election results. Supporters and political observers are invited to watch the results come in, candidates give their victory and concession speeches and host parties for campaign volunteers and donors at the site, and television stations broadcast from the floor of the convention center. Golden Hall was scheduled to be closed in 2004, but was reused again for the November 2005 special election. [\[1\]](#)

Presidential elections results		
Year	GOP	Dems
2004	57.51% 596,033	41.15% 426,437
2000	49.63% 475,736	45.66% 437,666
1996	45.57% 402,876	44.11% 389,964
1992	35.7% 352,125	37.2% 367,397
1988	60.2% 523,143	38.3% 333,264
1984	65.3% 502,344	33.4% 257,029
1980	60.8% 435,910	27.3% 195,410
1976	55.7% 353,302	41.6% 263,654
1972	61.8% 371,627	34.3% 206,455
1968	56.3% 261,540	36.1% 167,669
1964	50.3% 214,445	49.7% 211,808
1960	56.4% 233,045	43.3% 171,259

Demographics

As of the [census²](#) of 2000, there were 2,813,833 people, 994,677 households, and 663,449 families residing in the county. The [population density](#) was 259/km² (670/mi²). There were 1,040,149 housing units at an average density of 96/km² (248/mi²). The racial makeup of the county was 66.52% [White](#), 5.74% [Black](#) or [African American](#), 0.86% [Native American](#), 8.88% [Asian](#), 0.48% [Pacific Islander](#), 12.82% from [other races](#), and 4.69% from two or more races. 26.69% of the population were [Hispanic](#) or [Latino](#) of any race.

There were 994,677 households out of which 33.90% had children under the age of 18 living with them, 50.70% were [married couples](#) living together, 11.60% had a female householder with no husband present, and 33.30% were non-families. 24.20% of all households were made up of individuals and 7.90% had someone living alone who was 65 years of age or older. The average household size was 2.73 and the average family size was 3.29.

In the county the population was spread out with 25.70% under the age of 18, 11.30% from 18 to 24, 32.00% from 25 to 44, 19.80% from 45 to 64, and 11.20% who were 65 years of age or older. The median age was 33 years. For every 100 females there were 101.20 males. For every 100 females age 18 and over, there were 99.70 males.

The median income for a household in the county was \$47,067, and the median income for a family was \$53,438. Males had a median income of \$36,952 versus \$30,356 for females. The [per capita income](#) for the county was \$22,926. About 8.90% of families and 12.40% of the population were below the [poverty line](#), including 16.50% of those under age 18 and 6.80% of those age 65 or over.

Current estimates

According to estimates by the [San Diego Association of Governments](#), the [median household income](#) of San Diego County in [2005](#) was \$64,273 (not adjusted for [inflation](#)). When adjusted for [inflation](#) ([1999](#) dollars; comparable to [Census](#) data above), the median household income was \$52,192.

Cities and towns in San Diego County





A rural part of northern San Diego County.



The Mormon temple in San Diego serves the county's 60,000 Mormons.

Incorporated Cities

- [Carlsbad](#) (*Aviara, La Costa*)
- [Chula Vista](#)
- [Coronado](#)
- [Del Mar](#)
- [El Cajon](#)
- [Encinitas](#) (*Cardiff-by-the-Sea, Leucadia, Olivenhain*)
- [Escondido](#)
- [Imperial Beach](#)
- [La Mesa](#)
- [Lemon Grove](#)
- [National City](#)
- [Poway](#)
- [Oceanside](#)
- [San Diego](#)
- [San Marcos](#)
- [Santee](#)
- [Solana Beach](#)
- [Vista](#)

Unincorporated Communities

- [Agua Caliente Springs](#)
- [Alpine](#)
- [Barrett](#)
- [Blossom Valley](#)
- [Bonita](#)
- [Bonsall](#)
- [Borrego Springs](#)
- [Bostonia](#)
- [Boulevard](#)
- [Calexico Lodge](#)
- [Camp Pendleton North](#)

- [Camp Pendleton South](#)
- [Campo](#)
- [Canebrake](#)
- [Casa de Oro-Mount Helix](#)
- [Crest](#)
- [Cuyamaca](#)
- [Dehesa](#)
- [De Luz](#)
- [Descanso](#)
- [Dulzura](#)
- [Eucalyptus Hills](#)
- [Fairbanks Ranch](#)
- [Fallbrook](#)
- [Fernbrook](#)
- [Flinn Springs](#)
- [Granite Hills](#)
- [Guatay](#)
- [Harbison Canyon](#)
- [Hidden Meadows](#)
- [Jacumba](#)
- [Jamul](#)
- [Julian](#)
- [La Presa](#)
- [Lake Morena](#)
- [Lake San Marcos](#)
- [Lakeside](#)
- [Live Oak Springs](#) (Feature 1660931 in [Geographic Names Information System](#))
- [Manzanita](#) (Feature 245461 in [Geographic Names Information System](#) database)
- [Mount Laguna](#)
- [Pine Hills](#)
- [Pine Valley](#)
- [Portero](#)
- [Pueblo Siding](#) (Feature 1682451 in [Geographic Names Information System](#))
- [Rainbow](#)
- [Ramona](#)
- [Rancho San Diego](#)
- [Rancho Santa Fe](#)
- [San Diego Country Estates](#)
- [San Elijo](#)
- [Santa Ysabel](#)
- [Shelter Valley](#)
- [Spring Valley](#)
- [Tecate](#)
- [Tierra del Sol](#)
- [Valley Center](#)
- [Vallecitos](#)

- [Warner Springs](#)
- [Winter Gardens](#)

Airports

- Lindbergh Field, (SAN) a.k.a. [San Diego International Airport](#)
- [Montgomery Field](#), (MYF)
- [McClellan-Palomar Airport](#), (CLD or CRQ) a.k.a. Palomar Airport, Carlsbad Airport
- [Gillespie Field](#), (SEE) located in El Cajon
- Agua Caliente Airport
- Borrego Valley Airport
- Fallbrook Airport
- Jacumba Airport
- Lake Wohlford (private, tiny)
- [Oceanside Municipal Airport](#)
- Ocotillo Airport
- Pauma Valley (private)
- [Ramona Airport](#), (RNM)

See also

- [California least tern](#)
- [List of school districts in San Diego County, California](#)

External links

- [County of San Diego Official Website](#)
- [San Diego Geographic Information Source Website](#)
- [San Diego County Water Authority Map](#)
- [Respected School of San Diego County](#)