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City of San Diego



San Diego Skyline

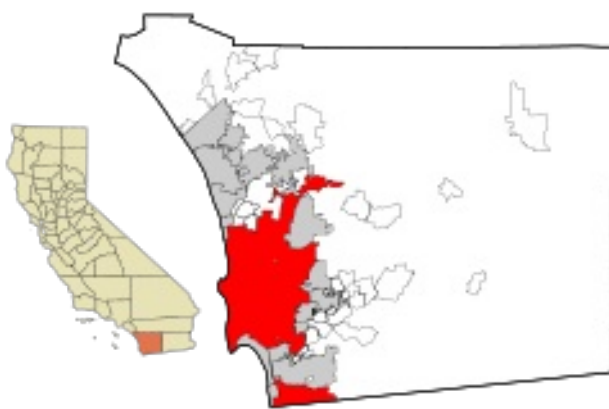
Flag



Seal

Nickname: America's Finest City

Motto: Semper Vigilans (Latin: Ever Vigilant)



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

Coordinates:

32°42 54 N 117°09 45 W / 32.715, -117.1625

<u>Country</u>	United States
<u>State</u>	California
<u>County</u>	San Diego
Founded	July 16, 1769
Incorporated	March 27, 1850
Government	
- <u>Mayor</u>	Jerry Sanders (R)
- <u>City Attorney</u>	Michael Aguirre Scott Peters Kevin Faulconer Toni Atkins Tony Young
- <u>City Council</u>	Brian Maienschein Donna Frye Jim Madaffer Ben Hueso

Area

- Total	372.1 sq mi (963.6 km²)
- Land	324.3 sq mi (840.0 km²)
- Water	47.7 sq mi (123.5 km²)

Elevation 72 [ft](#) (22 [m](#))

Population (2006)^[1]

- <u>City</u>	1,256,951
- <u>Density</u>	3,871.5/ sq mi (1,494.7/ km²)
- <u>Metro</u>	2,941,454 Including Tijuana: 4,922,723

Time zone [PST](#) (UTC-8)

- **Summer (DST)** [PDT](#) (UTC-7)

Area code(s) [619](#), [858](#)

FIPS code 06-66000

GNIS feature ID 1661377

Other City Symbols

City Flower:	Carnation
City Urban Tree:	Jacaranda
City Native Tree:	Torrey Pine

Website: <http://www.sandiego.gov/>

San Diego is a coastal [Southern California](#) city located in the southwestern co

[United States](#). As of [2006](#), the city has a population of 1,256,951.^[1] It is the second largest city in [California](#) and the [eighth largest city in the United States](#). It is the [county seat](#) of [San Diego County](#) and is the economic center of the [San Diego–Carlsbad–San Marcos](#) metropolitan area, the second largest metro area in the U.S. with a population of 2.9 million as of 2006, and the [second largest Metropolitan area](#) in the [Americas](#) when including [Tijuana](#) (See San Diego-Tijuana).

San Diego County lies just north of the Mexican border—sharing a border with [Orange County](#) to the south. It is home to miles of beaches, a mild [Mediterranean climate](#), and numerous facilities hosting the [United States Navy](#), the [United States Coast Guard](#) and the [Marine Corps](#).

The [University of California, San Diego](#) (UCSD) and the affiliated UCSD Medical Center, along with nearby research institutes in the Torrey Pines area of [La Jolla](#) make the area a hub for biotechnology research. San Diego's economy is largely composed of agriculture, biotechnology/biosciences, computer sciences, electronics manufacturing, defense manufacturing, financial and business services, ship-repair and construction, telecommunications, and tourism.

Contents

- [1 History](#)
- [2 Geography](#)
 - [2.1 Climate](#)
 - [2.2 Communities and neighborhoods](#)
- [3 Demographics](#)
 - [3.1 Current estimates](#)
 - [3.2 Future estimates](#)
 - [3.3 Crime](#)
- [4 Economy](#)
 - [4.1 Real estate](#)
- [5 Education](#)
 - [5.1 Libraries](#)
 - [5.2 Primary and secondary schools](#)
 - [5.3 Colleges and universities](#)
- [6 Politics](#)
- [7 Culture](#)
 - [7.1 San Diego Board Culture](#)
 - [7.2 Sports](#)
 - [7.3 Media](#)
- [8 Transportation](#)
 - [8.1 Freeways and highways](#)
 - [8.2 Public transportation](#)
 - [8.3 Cycling](#)
 - [8.4 Air](#)
 - [8.5 Sea](#)
- [9 Military](#)
 - [9.1 Military institutions in the San Diego area](#)
- [10 Sister cities](#)
- [11 References](#)
- [12 See also](#)
- [13 External links](#)

History

Main article: [History of San Diego, California](#)

The area has long been inhabited by the [Kumeyaay](#) people. The first European explorer was the [Portuguese](#) explorer Juan Rodrigues Cabrillo sailing under the Spanish flag, on his flagship *San Salvador* from Navidad, [New Spain](#). Cabrillo claimed the bay and named the site San Miguel. In November of 1602, Sebastián Vizcaíno (1548–1604) explored the California coast. Arriving on his flagship *San Diego*, Vizcaíno surveyed the area, now [Mission Bay](#) and [Point Loma](#) and named the area for the [Catholic Saint Diego](#), more commonly known as *San Diego*. On [November 12, 1602](#), the first Christian record in [Alta California](#) was conducted by Fray Antonio de la Ascensión, a m

expedition, to celebrate the feast day of San Diego.

In 1769, [Gaspar de Portolà](#) established the [Presidio of San Diego](#) (a military post) in San Diego. Around the same time, [Mission San Diego de Alcalá](#) was founded by [Father Junípero Serra](#). By 1797, the mission boasted the largest native population in California with over 1,400 *neophytes* living in and around the mission proper. After New Mexico's independence from the Spanish Empire in 1823, Mission San Diego de Alcalá was the only mission in California that remained in the 1830s after the decree of [secularization](#) was enacted, as was the case with [Mission San Juan Capistrano](#) under the control of [Mexico](#). In 1847 San Diego was a destination of the 2,000 members of the [Mormon Battalion](#) which built the city's first courthouse with brick.

After the [Battle of San Pasqual](#), the end of the [Mexican-American War](#), and the city's incorporation as a city in 1850, San Diego was designated the seat of the newly-established San Diego County and the county seat in 1850. In the years before [World War I](#), the [Industrial Workers of the World](#) conducted a [free speech fight](#) in San Diego, arousing [a brutal response](#).

Significant U.S. Naval presence began in 1907 with the establishment of the Naval Air Station which gave further impetus to the development of the town. San Diego hosted the Panama-California Exposition in 1915, and the [California Pacific International Exposition](#). Many of the Spanish/Baroque-style buildings in the city's [Balboa Park](#) were built for the expositions, particularly the one in 1915. Intended to be temporary structures, they have seen continuous use until they progressively fell into disrepair. All were eventually repaired and the original facades to faithfully retain the architectural style.

After [World War II](#), the military played an increasing role in the local economy. The military cutbacks took a heavy toll on the local defense and aerospace industries. The military San Diego leaders to seek to diversify the city's economy, and San Diego has since become a center of the emerging [biotechnology](#) industry. It is also home to telecommur [Qualcomm](#).

[Downtown San Diego](#) has been undergoing an urban renewal since the early 1980s, beginning with the opening of [Horton Plaza](#), the revival of the [Gaslamp Quarter](#), and the construction of the [San Diego Convention Center](#). The Centre City Development Corporation (CCDC), San Diego's downtown redevelopment agency, has transformed what was a largely abandoned waterfront into a glittering showcase of waterfront [skyscrapers](#), expensive live-work loft development, and many [cafes](#), [restaurants](#), and [boutiques](#).

A view of [Old Town](#) from [Seaport Village](#)

The North Embarcadero is slated to have parks in addition to a waterfront promenade. Horton Plaza Park will be linked to downtown with a view corridor. The recent boom in the city's economy and skyscrapers has brought with it a [gentrification](#) frenzy, and some people and speculators have played too big a role in the condo market downtown. In the city's response, it is committed to a "[smart growth](#)" development scheme that would increase density and create corridors in older neighborhoods (the "City of Villages" planning concept.) Some are resisting this planning approach. But "mixed-use development" has had its success with the award-winning Uptown Shopping Center in Hillcrest.

The latest accomplishment of CCDC has been the recent inauguration of [PETCO Center](#). The new industrial East Village adjacent to the new ballpark is now the new frontier in San Diego urban renewal.

A series of scandals has rocked the city in recent years. With mounting pressure over the underfunding of pensions for city employees that began prior to his administration, Mayor [Marty Murphy](#), in April 2005, announced his intention to resign by mid-July. Two city council members, [Ralph Inzunza](#) and deputy mayor [Michael Zucchet](#) — who was to take Murphy's place — were ultimately convicted of [extortion](#), [wire fraud](#), and conspiracy to commit wire fraud. Inzunza was convicted of campaign contributions from a strip club owner and his associates, allegedly in exchange for repealing the city's "no touch" laws at strip clubs. Both subsequently resigned. The conviction in Zucchet's case (overturned) the conviction in Zucchet's case.

On [November 28, 2005](#), U.S. Congressman [Randy "Duke" Cunningham](#) resigned over a scandal. Cunningham represented [California's 50th congressional district](#), which

(north) of the city of San Diego proper. He is currently serving a one-hundred sentence.

Geography

See also: [Beaches in San Diego, California](#) and [Parks in San Diego, California](#)

The city of San Diego itself has deep canyons separating its mesas, creating small pockets of natural parkland scattered throughout the city. The same canyons give parts of the city a highly segmented feel, creating literal gaps between otherwise proximal neighborhoods and contributing to a low-density, car-centered built environment. [Downtown San Diego](#) is located on [San Diego](#) on a mesa to the northeast. It is surrounded by several dense [urban communities](#) in [Hillcrest](#) to the north. The [Coronado](#) and [Point Loma](#) peninsulas separate San Diego from the ocean. [Ocean Beach](#) is on the west side of Point Loma. [Mission Beach](#) and [Pacific Beach](#) are on the east side of Mission Bay, a man-made aquatic park. [La Jolla](#), an affluent coastal city, is to the east of Pacific Beach. [Mount Soledad](#) in La Jolla offers views from northern San Diego. The [San Diego Mountains](#) rise to the east of the city, and beyond the mountains are desert areas. [Anza-Borrego Desert State Park](#) is a half-hour drive from downtown San Diego. Numerous farms are found in the northeast and southeast of the city. San Diego County has one of the highest numbers of native plant species that are on the [endangered species](#) list than other counties in the state.

The San Diego metropolitan area

Climate

Main article: [Climate of San Diego, California](#)

San Diego predominantly has a [semi-arid](#) warm [steppe](#) climate ([Köppen climate classification](#)). San Diego enjoys mild, sunny weather throughout the year. Average monthly temperatures range from 56 °Fahrenheit (14 °C) in January to 72 °Fahrenheit (22 °C) in July, although late summer and autumn are typically the hottest times of the year. The average annual daily temperature is 63 °Fahrenheit. Snow and ice are virtually nonexistent in the wintertime, typically from the coast when present. "May gray and June gloom", a local saying, refers to the fact that San Diego sometimes has trouble shaking off the marine layer, a cloudy layer in the lower atmosphere than fog, that comes in during those months. Temperatures soar only on rare occasions, chiefly when easterly winds bring hot, dry air from the desert. These winds are called "[Santa Anas](#)". The record highest temperature at the airport is 106 °Fahrenheit on August 26, 1963, and the record lowest temperature is 29 °Fahrenheit on January 4, 1949. A low of 29 °Fahrenheit was recorded in downtown San Diego in January 1913.

The average annual precipitation is less than 12 inches (300 [mm](#)), resulting in a borderline arid climate. Rainfall is strongly concentrated in the cooler half of the year, particularly the months December through March, although precipitation is lower than any other part of the U.S. west coast. The summer months are virtually rainless. Rainfall is highly variable from year to year and from month to month, and San Diego is subject to both droughts and floods. Thunderstorms and hurricanes are very rare. Measurable snowfall has never occurred in downtown San Diego; snow flurries were reported at the airport in January 1949 and January 1979. Light amounts of snow have occurred in higher locations within the city limits, according to the [National Weather Service](#)'s climatological summary.



Two [California Brown Pelicans](#) with skyline in the background

Climate in the San Diego area often varies dramatically over short geographic

city's topography (the Bay, and the numerous hills, mountains, and canyons): during the "May gray / June gloom" period, a thick "marine layer" [cloud](#) cover and damp within a few miles of the coast, but will yield to bright cloudless sun and 15 miles (24 km) inland -- the cities of [El Cajon](#) and [Santee](#) for example, rare cloud cover. This phenomenon is known as [microclimate](#).

Weather averages for San Diego

Month	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct
Average high °F	65.1	65.7	64.9	66.7	67.1	69.3	73.0	74.8	75.4	73.4
Average low °F	48.9	50.7	52.9	55.6	59.2	61.9	65.7	67.3	65.7	61.0
Precipitation inch	2.28	2.04	2.26	0.75	0.20	0.09	0.03	0.09	0.21	0.44
Average high °C	18.4	18.7	18.3	19.3	19.5	20.7	22.8	23.8	24.1	23.0
Average low °C	07.3	08.3	09.5	11.0	13.3	15.2	17.3	18.3	17.0	13.9
Precipitation mm	57.9	51.8	57.4	19.0	05.1	02.3	00.8	02.3	05.3	11.2

Source: [worldclimate.com](#)^[3] Jan 2007

Communities and neighborhoods

See also: [Urban Communities of San Diego](#) and [Urban Communities of S](#)

Northern: Bay Ho, Bay Park, [Carmel Valley](#), [Clairemont Mesa East](#), [Clairemont Mesa West](#), [Del Mar Mesa](#), [La Jolla](#), La Jolla Village, [Mission Beach](#), Mission Bay Park, North City, [North Clairemont](#), [Pacific Beach](#), [Pacific Highlands Ranch](#), [Torrey Hills](#), [Torrey Pines](#), [University City](#)

Old Town, S

Northeastern: [Black Mountain Ranch](#), [Carmel Mountain Ranch](#), [Miramar](#), [Mira Mesa](#), [Rancho Bernardo](#), Rancho Encantada, [Rancho Peñasquitos](#), [Sabre Valley](#), [Scripps Ranch](#), [Sorrento Valley](#), [Torrey Highlands](#)

Eastern: [Allied Gardens](#), Birdland, [Del Cerro](#), Grantville, [Kearny Mesa](#), Lake Mead, [East](#), San Carlos, Serra Mesa, [Tierrasanta](#)

Western: Burlingame, [Hillcrest](#), La Playa, [Linda Vista](#), Loma Portal, Midtown, [Mission Hills](#), [Mission Valley West](#), Morena, [North Park](#), [Ocean Beach](#), Old Town, [Heights](#), Roseville-Fletridge, Sunset Cliffs, [University Heights](#), Wooded Area

Central: Balboa Park, [Bankers Hill](#), Barrio Logan, City Heights, [Downtown \(City Center\)](#), [East Village](#), [Gaslamp Quarter](#), Horton, [Little Italy](#), [Marina](#), [Golden Hill](#), [City Heights \(Leva Heights aka Leche\)](#), Memorial, Middletown, Sherman Heights, S

Mid-City: [City Heights](#) (comprising Azalea Park, Bayridge, Hollywood Park, Chollas Creek, Colina Del Sol, Corridor, Fairmount, Fox Canyon, Islenair, Ridge, Rolando, Swan Canyon, Teralta East, Teralta West), [College East](#), [College West](#), [Gateway](#), [Kensington](#), [Normal Heights](#), [Oak Park](#), [Talmadge](#)

Southeastern: Alta Vista, Bay Terrace, Broadway Heights, Emerald Hills, [Encanto](#), Lincoln Park, Mountain View, [Mt. Hope](#), [Paradise Hills](#), Shelltown, Skyline, So

Southern: Egger Highlands, Nestor, Ocean Crest, [Otay Mesa](#), Otay Mesa West, Tijuana River Valley

Demographics

As of the [census](#)^{GR2} of 2000, there were 1,223,400 people, 450,691 households, and 271,315 families residing in the city. The [population density](#) was 3,771.9 people per square mile (1,456.4/km²).

Population by race/ethnicity (Census 2000 def.) Hispanic/Latino (25.4%)*The majority of Hispanics in San Diego are born in the USA,

Year	Hispanic/Latino
1850	185
1860	186
1870	187

and are of Mexican ancestry (US Census 2000 confirmed)* non-Hispanic White alone (52.3%) non-Hispanic Black (7.9%) non-Hispanic Other Race alone (0.2%) non-Hispanic Asian, Hawaiian and Pacific Islander alone (10.4%) non-Hispanic American Indian/Alaska Native alone (0.4%) non-Hispanic Multiracial (3.3%)

There were 451,126 households out of which 30.2% had children under the age of 18 living with them, 44.6% were [married couples](#) living together, 11.4% had a female householder with no husband present, and 39.8% were non-families. 28.0% of all households were made up of individuals and 7.4% had someone living alone who was 65 years of age or older. The average household size was 2.61 and the average family size was 3.30.

In the city the population was spread out with 24.0% under the age of 18, 12.4% from 18 to 24, 34.0% from 25 to 44, 19.1% from 45 to 64, and 10.5% who were 65 years of age or older. The median age was 32 years. For every 100 females there were 101.7 males. For every 100 females age 18 and over, there were 100.4 males.

The [median income for a household](#) in the city was \$45,733, and the median income for a family was \$53,060. Males had a median income of \$36,984 versus \$31,076 for females. The [per capita income](#) for the city was \$23,609. About 10.6% of families and 14.6% of the population were below the [poverty line](#), including 20.0% of the 7.6% of those age 65 or over.

[Downtown](#)

Current estimates

According to estimates on [January 1, 2006](#) by the [San Diego Association of Governments](#), household income and population have slightly increased from the year 2000. San Diego is estimated to be 1,311,162, up 7.2% from 2000, and median household income is \$47,816 (when adjusted for inflation in 1999 dollars), up 5.9% from 2000.^[4] A Census 2004 [American Community Survey](#), San Diego city had the fifth largest income of places with a population of 250,000 or more.^[5]

The population as of January 2007 was above 1.3 million.

Future estimates

According to estimates by the [San Diego Association of Governments](#), in the year 2030 the city will have a larger population, a larger median household income, and a substantial increase in population. The city will have a median household income (when adjusted for inflation in 1999 dollars) of \$59,300, up 29% from 2000, and will have a population of 1,656,257. Several large ethnic groups will substantially increase their population, such as the Hawaiian and Pacific Islander population that will increase 339% from 5,311 people in 2000 to 23,341 in 2030, the Asian population that will increase 133% from 258,165 in 2000 to 601,906 in 2030, and the Black population that will increase 73% from 164,895 in 2000 to 285,723 in 2030. Despite the 35% increase in population from 2000 to 2030, the population of non-Hispanic white people will decrease 9% from 553,682 in 2000 to 503,682 in 2030 and the population of black people will decrease 9% from 164,895 in 2000 to 148,626 in 2030.^{[6][7]}

Race	Future ethnic make-up of San Diego			Race
	2010	2020	2030	
Hispanic	30.0%	34.4%	36.3%	Two or more races
non-Hispanic White	41.8%	35.9%	33.4%	Hawaiian/Pacific Islander
Asian	17.0%	17.3%	17.3%	Native American
Black	6.5%	5.8%	5.1%	Other

Crime

San Diego has had a declining [crime](#) rate since the early 1990s.^[8] In 2004, San Diego had a crime rate of 4.8 per 100 people.

lowest crime rate of any U.S. city with over half a million residents.^[8] In 2005, 1.1 murders per 100,000 (national average of 5.6) and was the lowest U.S. city over 100,000 residents.^[9] According to FBI Crime Index, from 2002 to 2006, Violent Crime rate and overall crime only decreased 0.8% partly due to a 1.1% increase in property crime.

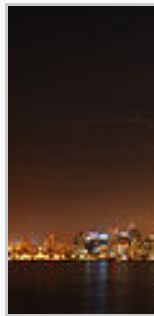
According to 2005 FBI crime reports,^[11] in the year 2004, all violent crimes, including rapes, robberies, and aggravated assaults, were lower than the national average; however, while burglaries and larcenies are lower than the national average, vehicle thefts were twice as high as the national average.

Economy

See also: [List of companies headquartered in San Diego, California](#)

The three largest sectors of San Diego's economy are defense, manufacturing, and tourism respectively.^[12]

Several areas of San Diego (in particular [La Jolla](#) and surrounding [Sorrento Valley](#) areas) are home to offices and research facilities for numerous biotechnology companies. Major biotechnology companies like [Neurocrine Biosciences](#) and Nventa Biopharmaceuticals are headquartered in San Diego, while many biotech and pharmaceutical companies, such as [BD Biosciences](#), [Biogen Idec](#), Integrated DNA Technologies, [Merck](#), [Pfizer](#), [Élan](#), Genzyme, Celgene and Vertex, have offices or research facilities in San Diego. There are also several [non-profit](#) biotech institutes, such as the [Salk Institute for Biological Studies](#), [the Scripps Research Institute](#) and the Burnham Institute. The presence of [University of California, San Diego](#) institutions helped fuel biotechnology growth. In June 2004, San Diego was ranked as a top biotech cluster in the U.S. by the Milken Institute.^[13]



Downtown

San Diego Marina.

San Diego is home to companies that develop wireless cellular technology. [Qualcomm](#) was founded and is headquartered in San Diego; Qualcomm is the largest private employer (excluding hospitals) in San Diego County.^[14] The largest software company (according to the San Diego Business Journal) is security software company [WebSense](#) was founded and is headquartered in San Diego.

The economy of San Diego is influenced by its port, which includes the only major shipbuilding yards on the West Coast, as well as the largest naval fleet in the world. The shipbuilding industry, which is the second largest in California, generates an estimated \$2 billion in revenue from the purchase of food, fuel, supplies, and maintenance services.^[15]

Due to San Diego's military influence, major national defense contractors, such as [Science Applications International Corporation](#) are headquartered in San Diego.

Tourism is also a major industry owing to the city's climate. Major tourist destinations include [San Diego State Park](#), the [San Diego Zoo](#), [Seaworld](#), nearby [Wild Animal Park](#) and [Legoland](#), and golf tournaments like the [Buick Invitational](#).

Real estate

San Diego has experienced dramatic growth of real estate prices in the last decade. The current situation is sometimes described as a "housing affordability crisis" because home prices have more than tripled between 1998 and 2007. According to the California Association of Realtors, in May 2007, a median house in San Diego cost \$612,370. Growth of real estate prices is accompanied by comparable growth of household incomes: housing affordability (the ratio of household income to the price of a median-priced house) fell below 20% in

remains very low. San Diego metropolitan area has second worst median mul (house price to median household income) of all metropolitan areas in the Uni consequence, San Diego has been experiencing negative net migration since 20 numbers of people moving to [Baja California](#) and [Riverside county](#), with many daily from [Tijuana](#), [Temecula](#), and [Murrieta](#), to their jobs in San Diego. Others altogether and moving to more affordable regions.^[17]

Education

Libraries

The San Diego library, based in downtown, has 34 branches throughout the ci new libraries to be constructed and ten library branches scheduled to be expa libraries have had reduced operating hours since 2003 due to the city's lack of Mayor Jerry Sanders increased spending on libraries by \$2.1 million; however, increased by \$19 million had Mayor Sanders honored the library spending ord

Primary and secondary schools

Main article: [Primary and secondary schools in San Diego, California](#)

The San Diego Unified School District, also known as [San Diego City Schools](#), i serves the majority of the city, it includes 113 [elementary schools](#), 23 [middle sc](#) schools, 10 alternative schools, 27 high schools and 25 [charter schools](#). In the i county, [Poway Unified School District](#) and [San Dieguito Union High School Di](#) outside city limits, but serve several schools within city limits. In the southern [Sweetwater Union High School District](#) serves multiple schools within city limi headquartered outside city limits.

Colleges and universities

According to education rankings released by the [U.S. Census Bureau](#), 40.4 per ce ages 25 and older hold [bachelor's degrees](#). The census ranks the city as the nin in the United States based on these figures.^[21]

Public colleges and universities in the city include [University of California, San Diego State University](#) (SDSU), and the [San Diego Community College District](#). [Diego City College](#), [San Diego Mesa College](#), and [San Diego Miramar College](#).

Private colleges and universities in the city include [Alliant International Univer](#) Institute of San Diego (DISD), John Paul the Great Catholic University, [Nationa](#) [NewSchool of Architecture and Design](#) which is co-located with the San Diego Living, [Pacific Oaks College](#), The Art Institute of California, San Diego, [Point L](#) [University](#) (PLNU), and [University of San Diego](#) (USD) .

There is one medical school in the city, the UCSD School of Medicine. There a accredited law schools in the city, which include [California Western School of](#) [School of Law](#), and [University of San Diego School of Law](#). There is also one u [Western Sierra Law School](#).

Politics

San Diego was once a [Republican](#) stronghold, and a strong ally for former pre supporting both his runs at the presidency.^[22] However, in recent years, San I moderate leaning [Democratic](#) city with an influx of immigrants from [Latin Am](#) shift in employment away from jobs in the military, toward [telecommunicatio](#) Currently, registered Democrats outnumber Republicans by about 7 to 6.^[23] I voter registration for Democrats, the current mayor, [Jerry Sanders](#), is a Republ has not elected a Democratic mayor since 1988. However, Democrats hold a 5

council, including the current Council President, Scott Peters, a moderate Democrat with the mayor. 55% of the city of San Diego voted for Democrat [John Kerry](#) in the election, though the county as a whole voted for Republican [George W. Bush](#).

On [September 18, 2007](#), the City Council with support from Mayor Sanders, was pending lawsuit before the [California Supreme Court](#) to overturn [Proposition 8](#) same-sex marriage in California and was voted for by 62 percent of San Diego voters.

Culture

Main article: [Culture of San Diego, California](#)

See also: [List of museums in San Diego, California](#)

Many popular [museums](#), such as the [San Diego Museum of Art](#), the San Diego Natural History Museum, the San Diego Museum of Man, and the Museum of Photographic Arts are located [Balboa Park](#). The [Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego](#) (MCASD) is located in an ocean front building in [La Jolla](#) and has a branch located at the [Santa Fe Depot downtown](#). The [Colombia district](#) downtown is home to historic ship exhibits as well as the [Carrier Museum](#) featuring the [USS Midway](#) aircraft carrier.

The Museum of Photographic Arts is located at Balboa Park.

San Diego has a growing art scene. "Kettner Nights" at the Art and Design District features art and design exhibitions throughout many retail design stores and galleries on Kettner Boulevard. "Ray at Night" at [North Park](#) host a variety of small scale art galleries on evenings of each month. [La Jolla](#) and nearby [Solana Beach](#) also have a variety of art galleries.

The [San Diego Symphony](#) at Symphony Towers performs on a regular basis at [Ling](#). The [San Diego Opera](#) at Civic Center Plaza was ranked by [Opera America](#) as one of the top opera companies in the United States. [Old Globe Theatre](#) at Balboa Park produces musicals annually. The [La Jolla Playhouse](#) at [UCSD](#) is directed by Christopher YOUNG. The [Kroc Theatre](#) at Kroc Center's Performing Arts Center is a 600-seat state-of-the-art theatre that hosts music, dance and theatre performances. The [San Diego Repertory Theatre](#) at [Horton Plaza](#) produces a variety of plays and musicals. Serving the San Diego area is the California Center for the Arts in Escondido, a 400-seat performing arts center.

[Tourism](#) has affected the city's culture, as San Diego houses many tourist attractions including [SeaWorld San Diego](#), [Belmont](#) amusement park, [San Diego Zoo](#), [San Diego Wild Animal Park](#), and nearby [Legoland](#). San Diego's [Spanish](#) influence can be seen in the many historic landmarks such as the [Spanish missions](#) and [Balboa Park](#). Cuisine in San Diego is diverse, featuring an abundance of wood fired California-style pizzas, and [Mexican](#) and East Asian cuisines. Major events in San Diego include [Comic-Con](#), San Diego/Del Mar Fair, and [Street Scene Music Festival](#).

San Diego has a large gay population and gay culture. The annual Gay Pride Parade attracts crowds in excess of 100,000 people. According to [U.S. Census](#) data from the year 2000, San Diego has a gay index of 186 (gay male index of 226 and a lesbian index of 144); the national average is 100.^[26] San Diego has the largest gay index in Southern California, surpassing Los Angeles. Most of the gay community, including the [LGBT](#) center and every [gay bar](#) in San Diego is located in [Hillcrest](#) and surrounding neighborhoods of [University Heights](#) and [North Park](#).

San Diego Board Culture

San Diego has always been a hotbed for surf and skateboard culture. Headquartered here are some of the industry's biggest names including Sector 9 Skateboards, TransWorld Media, and Rusty Surfboards. Some very well known surf spots include [Swamis](#), [Black's Beach](#), and [Windansea](#). The region even has its own snowboarder. Pro surfers [Rob Machado](#) and Taylor Knox, pro skateboarder [Tony Hawk](#), and snowboarder [Shaun White](#) call the San Diego area their home.

A surfer at Black's Beach.

Sports

Club	Sport	League	
San Diego Padres	Baseball	MLB (National League)	PETCO
San Diego Chargers	American Football	AFL 1961-1969, NFL 1970-Present	Qualco
O.M.B.A.C. RFC	Rugby	Rugby Super League (US)	Little Q Qualco
San Diego Pumitas	Soccer	National Premier Soccer League	Balboa
San Diego WFC SeaLions	Soccer	Women's Premier Soccer League	Cathed School
San Diego Sunwaves	Soccer	USL W-League	Torero
San Diego Wildcats	Basketball	ABA	Kroc C

San Diego has several sports venues: [Qualcomm Stadium](#) is the home of the [NCAA Division I San Diego State Aztecs](#), as well as local [high school football](#) clubs. [Qualcomm Stadium](#) also hosts international [soccer](#) games, [Supercross](#) events and [Major League Baseball](#). Three [NFL Super Bowl](#) championships and many [college](#) games have been held there. [Balboa Stadium](#) is the city's first stadium, constructed in 1967. It is the home of the [San Diego Chargers](#). Currently [Balboa Stadium](#) hosts [soccer](#), [American football](#), [track and field](#).

[PETCO Park](#) in downtown San Diego is the home of [Major League Baseball's San Diego Padres](#). The ballpark is also the current home of the semi-final and final games of the [World Series](#), having hosted the [inaugural series championship games](#) in 2006. PETCO Park also hosted the [2009 World Baseball Classic](#) semi-finals and final as well. Other than baseball, the stadium hosts other occasional soccer and rugby events. The [San Diego Sports Arena](#) has also hosted [ice hockey](#), [indoor soccer](#) and [boxing](#). [Cox Arena](#) at Aztec Bowl on the campus of [San Diego State University](#) hosts the [NCAA Division I San Diego State Aztecs](#) men's [basketball](#) games. [Torero Stadium](#) at the [University of San Diego](#) hosts [college](#) basketball and the Jenny Craig Pavilion at [USD](#) hosts [basketball](#) and [volleyball](#).

The [San Diego State Aztecs](#) ([MWC](#)) and the [San Diego Toreros](#) ([WCC](#)) are [NCAA Division I](#) teams. The [UCSD Tritons](#) ([CCAA](#)) are members of [NCAA Division II](#) while the [Point Loma Sea Lions](#) ([GSAC](#)) are members of the [NAIA](#).

San Diego has been the home of two [NBA](#) franchises, the first of which was the [San Diego Rockets](#). The Rockets represented the city of San Diego from 1967 until 1971. At the end of the 1970-1971 season, they moved to Texas where they became the [Houston Rockets](#). Later, San Diego received a relocated [NBA](#) franchise (the [Buffalo Braves](#)), which became the [San Diego Clippers](#). The Clippers played in the San Diego Sports Arena from 1978 to the start of the 1984-1985 season, the team was moved to Los Angeles, and is now the [Los Angeles Clippers](#).

Other sports franchises that represented San Diego include the [San Diego Comets](#) of the [American Basketball Association](#), the [San Diego Sockers](#) (which played in various soccer leagues during their existence), the [San Diego Flash](#) and the [San Diego Spirit](#) in different divisions of the [United Soccer League](#), the [San Diego Spirit](#) of the [VFL](#) [Association](#), the [San Diego Mariners](#) of the [World Hockey Association](#), and the [San Diego Mariners](#) were in different hockey leagues during each of their three incarnations. The [San Diego Shockwave](#) and the [San Diego Sockers](#) were indoor football teams that played at the [Sports Arena](#) and [Cox Arena](#) respectively. San Diego has long been a candidate for a [Major League Soccer](#) franchise to the city recording [FIFA World Cup](#) television audiences which are double that of other cities. Curiously, despite positive language being expressed by the league, the city, though a franchise continues to elude San Diego. That looks likely to be finally rectified if San Diego is considered among the favourites to land one of three franchises to be offered in 2015. San Diego does currently have an active mens team playing in the fourth level of American soccer, the [San Diego Pumitas](#) but no approaches have been made to turn them into an MLS franchise.

The annual [Rock 'n' Roll Marathon](#) in the city draws 20,000 participants annua

San Diego also hosts the prestigious [USA Sevens](#), an event in the annual [IRB Sevens](#) international teams in [rugby sevens](#), a variant of [rugby union](#) with seven players on the field. The USA Sevens moved from the Los Angeles area to San Diego in [2007](#).

San Diego has the dubious distinction of being the largest United States city to have never hosted a [Bowl](#), [World Series](#), [Stanley Cup](#), [NBA Finals](#) or any other Major League sports event, known as the [San Diego Sports Curse](#).

Media

See also: [List of fiction set in San Diego, California](#)

San Diego is served by [The San Diego Daily Transcript](#), as well as the mainstream [San Diego Union-Tribune](#) and its online portal, [signonsandiego.com](#), the online [Voiceofsandiego.org](#), and the alternative newsweeklies, the [San Diego CityBeat](#) and [San Diego Magazine](#) is the leading city regional magazine publication in the county, covering business, fashion, dining and community events. Another newspaper with high circulation in the region is the [North County Times](#), which serves San Diego's [North County](#) area. Other publications include [San Diego Metropolitan magazine](#), and the [San Diego Business Journal](#). San Diego has a vibrant [progressive](#) and [activist](#) community, which can be seen by its open-published San Diego Indymedia (also know as San Diego Independent Media Center [Independent Media Center](#) or [Indymedia](#) movement).

San Diego's television stations include XETV 6 ([FOX](#)), KFMB 8 ([CBS](#)), [KGTV](#) 10 ([CBS](#)), [KBNT](#) 17 ([Univision](#)), XHAS 33 ([Telemundo](#)), [K35DG](#) 35 (UCSD-TV), [KNSD](#) 39 ([NBC](#)), [MNTV](#), [KUSI](#) 51 (Independent), and [KSWB](#) 69 ([CW](#)). Most of the city's station channel number for each area:

- Channel 6: Cable 6
- Channel 8: Cable 8
- Channel 10: Cable 10
- Channel 15: Cable 11
- Channel 39: Cable 7
- Channel 49: Cable 13
- Channel 51: Cable 9
- Channel 69: Cable 5

The radio station skyline in San Diego is headed by nationwide broadcaster, [CJ 94.1](#) [Communications](#), followed up by [CBS Radio](#), Midwest Television, [Lincoln Financial](#) [Broadcasting](#), and many other smaller stations and networks. Stations include [AM 760](#), [KCEO AM 1000](#), [KCBQ AM 1170](#), [KLSD AM 1360](#) [Air America](#), [KFSD](#) 100.3, 91X, Magic 92.5, [Channel 933](#), [Star 94.1](#), [FM 94/9](#), [KyXy](#) 96.5, [Free Radio San Diego](#) (Free Radio San Diego) 96.9FM FRSD, [KSON](#) 97.3/92.1, [KIFM](#) 98.1, XMOR Blazin 98.9, Sports Radio AM 1090/FM 105.7, Jack-FM 100.7, 101.5 KGB-FM, [KPRI](#) 102.1, [Radio](#) [Pirate Radio](#) station at 106.9FM, as well as a number of popular local [Spanish](#) radio stations.

Transportation

Freeways and highways



I-5 looking South towards downtown San Diego.



With the automobile being the primary mode of transportation for over 80 percent of the population, San Diego is served by an extensive network of freeways and highways. This includes Interstates [5](#), [8](#), and [15](#). Interstate [5](#) runs north to the Canadian border, through [Orange County](#), [Los Angeles](#), [Sacramento](#), [Seattle](#); [I-8](#), which runs east to [Imperial County](#); [I-15](#), which runs north to the Canadian border, through [Riverside County](#) and [Salt Lake City](#); and [I-16](#) runs from I-5 at [Sorrento Valley](#) and rejoins Interstate [5](#) at the Canadian border. Notable state highways are [CA-56](#), [CA-52](#), [CA-94](#), [CA-54](#), and [CA-163](#).

[downtown](#) with I-805, I-15 and east coast connects [downtown](#) with the northeast. intersects I-805 and merges with I-15 at [Miramar](#); [CA-52](#), which connects [La Jolla](#) through [Santee](#) and [CA-125](#); [CA-56](#), which connects I-5 with I-15 through [Carlsbad](#); [Peñasquitos](#); and [CA-75](#) (San Diego-Coronado Bridge), which spans [San Diego Bay](#).

Several regional transportation projects have been undertaken in recent years on San Diego freeways. This includes expansion of Interstates 5 and 805 around the hour spot where the two freeways meet. Also, an expansion of Interstate 15 through San Diego County is underway with the addition of high-occupancy-vehicle (HOV) lanes (The South Bay Expressway) connecting CA-54 and [Otay Mesa](#), near the Mexican border under construction and is expected to open in 2007. According to a 2007 assessment of streets in San Diego are in acceptable driving condition and Mayor [Jerry Sanders](#) falls 84.6 million short of bringing the city's streets to an acceptable level.^[29]

Public transportation

See also: [Public transportation in San Diego County, California](#)

Less than three percent of San Diego residents use mass transit.^[28] San Diego is served by the [trolley](#), bus, [Coaster](#), and [Amtrak](#). The trolley (system map) primarily serves downtown and surrounding [urban communities](#), [Mission Valley](#), east county and coastal south bay. A planned Mid-Coast line will operate from [Old Town](#) to [University City](#) along the 5 Freeway. There are also plans for a Silver Line to expand trolley service downtown.

The Amtrak and Coaster trains currently run along the coastline and connect San Diego with Los Angeles, Orange County, Riverside, San Bernardino, and Ventura via [MetroLink](#). There are three Amtrak stations in San Diego, in [Sorrento Valley](#), [Old Town](#), and [Union Station](#) (downtown).

The bus is available along almost all major routes, however a large number of buses are concentrated in central San Diego. Typical wait times vary from 15 to 30 minutes depending on location and route. Trolleys arrive every 7 to 30 minutes (depending on time of day and line is used). Ferries are also available every half hour crossing San Diego Bay.

Cycling

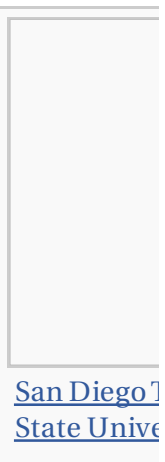
San Diego's roadway system provides an extensive network of routes for travel and the mild climate of San Diego makes cycling a convenient and pleasant year-round activity. At the same time, the city's hilly, canyoned terrain and significantly long average trip distances—about by strict low-density zoning laws—somewhat restrict cycling for utilitarian purposes. [Denser neighborhoods around the downtown](#) tend to be friendlier to [utility cycling](#) because of the grid street patterns now absent in newer developments farther from downtown where suburban style arterial roads are much more common. As a result, a vast majority of cycling-related activities are recreational.

The city has some [segregated cycle facilities](#), particularly in newer developments. The majority of road facilities specifically for bicycles are painted on regular roadways.

Many San Diego cyclists belong to the San Diego County Bicycle Coalition which represents the needs and interests of cyclists throughout the county.

In 2006, Bicycling Magazine rated San Diego as the best city for cycling for U.S. cities with a population over 1 million.^[30]

Air

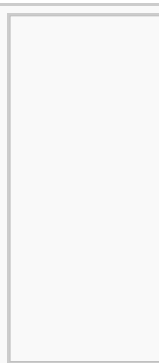


[San Diego International Airport](#), also known as Lindbergh International Airport, is the primary commercial airport serving San Diego. It is the busiest single-runway airport in the United States, serving over 17 million passengers every year, and is located on San Diego's coast, about 10 miles from downtown. It has scheduled services all over the USA, Mexico, Hawaii, and Japan, and is a focus city for Southwest Airlines. Other airports include [Brown Field Municipal Airport](#) (Brown Field) and [Montgomery Field](#) (Montgomery Field). [Tijuana International Airport](#) provides direct connections within Mexico and Japan.

There is currently debate regarding the placement of a new international airport. The San Diego International Airport Authority is pushing for the current site of the [Miramar Marine Corps Air Station](#). The authority says it has no intention of giving up that site. A vote on the issue took place on November 3, 2008, against Proposition A, in which voters rejected the proposal to move the airport to Miramar. The military has rejected the proposals for a dual-use airport because the area around Miramar has already been set aside as safety corridors for military aircraft accidents. A shared commercial/military airport would force military aircraft to fly outside of those corridors.

Sea

The [Port of San Diego](#) manages the maritime operations of San Diego harbor. Cruise ships arrive and depart from San Diego's cruise ship terminal at the foot of Broadway in downtown San Diego. [Carnival Cruise Lines](#), [Royal Caribbean](#), [Holland America](#), and [Celebrity Cruises](#) have home port cruise ships in San Diego during the Winter season. Popular cruise destinations include [Mexico](#), Hawaii, [Alaska](#) and the [Caribbean](#) via the [Panama Canal](#). An additional cruise terminal at [Embarcadero Circle](#) is set to open in 2010. San Diego's port also manages a significant cargo operation which includes imports from [South America](#), vehicle imports from [Germany](#), [Italy](#) and [Japan](#), and other trade operations.^[33]



A dock in San Diego harbor. In the distance is the San Diego Naval Air Station.

San Diego is home to General Dynamics' [National Steel and Shipbuilding Company](#) (NASSCO), the largest shipyard on the West Coast of the United States. It is capable of building and repairing large ocean-going vessels. The yard constructs commercial cargo ships and military vessels for the U.S. Navy and Military Sealift Command, which it has served since 1960.

Military

Military bases in San Diego include [U.S. Navy](#) ports, [Marine Corps](#) bases, and [Air Force](#) bases. One of the Marine Corps' two [Recruit Depots](#) is located in San Diego. San Diego is known as the "birthplace of [naval aviation](#)," although [Pensacola, Florida](#) makes a rival claim.

San Diego is the site of the largest naval fleet in the world, and San Diego has the highest concentration of Naval facilities in the world due to base reductions at [Norfolk Naval Shipyard](#) and the retrenchment of the Russian naval base in [Vladivostok](#). Two of the U.S. Navy's [supercarriers](#), (the USS *Nimitz* and the [USS Ronald Reagan](#)), five [amphibious assault ships](#), [Los Angeles-class](#) "fast attack" submarines, carrier and submarine tenders, and other vessels are home-ported there. Four Navy vessels have been named [USS San Diego](#) in honor of the city.

Military institutions in the San Diego area

Marine Corps institutions in San Diego include [Marine Corps Air Station Miramar](#) and [Recruit Depot San Diego](#); north of San Diego is [Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton](#). In the city, several institutions in the city, including the Navy Submarine Support Facility, [Naval Station San Diego](#) (also known as the 32nd Street Naval Station), and the [Warfare Systems Center San Diego](#). Close by San Diego is the [Naval Air Station](#) which operates [Naval Auxiliary Landing Facility San Clemente Island](#) and [Outlying Field San Diego](#). The [Naval Amphibious Base Coronado](#), which are consolidated into [Naval Base San Diego](#).

Sister cities

San Diego has fifteen [sister cities](#), as designated by [Sister Cities International](#)^[3]

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
|  Alcalá de Henares, Spain |  Jeonju, South Korea |  León, Mexico |
|  Campinas, Brazil |  Perth, Australia |  Taichung City, Taiwan |
|  Cavite City, Philippines |  Tema, Ghana |  Edinburgh, Scotland, UK |
|  Edinburgh, Scotland, UK | | |
|  Jalalabad, Afghanistan | | |

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See also

- [List of notable San Diegans](#)
- [San Diego Harbor Police](#)

External links



Wikimedia Commons has media related to:

[San Diego](#)

Demographic fact sheet from [Census Bureau](#)

[City of San Diego Official Website](#)

- [History of San Diego from San Diego Historical Society](#)
- [San Diego Regional Economic Development](#)
- [San Diego Public Library](#)
- [San Diego Association of Nonprofits](#)
- [San Diego Convention and Visitors Bureau](#)
- [San Diego Classical Music](#)
- [San Diego travel guide](#) from [Wikitravel](#)

Coordinates: 32.78° N 117.15° W﻿ / ﻿32.78° N 117.15° W﻿ / 32.78; -117.15

Neighborhoods of San Diego, California	
Northern	Carmel Valley · Clairemont · Del Mar Mesa · La Jolla · Mission Beach · Pacific Highlands Ranch · Torrey Highlands · Torrey Hills · Torrey Pines
Northeastern	Black Mountain Ranch · Carmel Mountain Ranch · Mira Mesa · Mira Mesa East · Rancho Penasquitos · Sabre Springs · San Pasqual Valley · Scripps Ranch
Eastern	Allied Gardens · Del Cerro · Grantville · Kearny Mesa · Mission Valley · Serra Mesa · Tierrasanta
Western	Hillcrest · Linda Vista · Mission Hills · Mission Valley West · North Park · University Heights
Central	Downtown (Columbia · Core · Cortez Hill · East Village · Gaslamp Quarter · Marina) · Bankers Hill · Golden Hill · Logan Heights · Middletown · North Park
Mid-City	City Heights · College Area · El Cerrito · Gateway · Kensington · North Park · Redwood Village · Rolando · Talmadge · Webster
Southeastern	Encanto · Mt. Hope · Paradise Hills
Southern	Otay Mesa · San Ysidro

Municipalities and communities of San Diego County, California	
County seat: San Diego	
Cities	Carlsbad Chula Vista Coronado Del Mar El Cajon Encinitas Escondido Imperial Beach La Mesa Lemon Grove National City Oceanside Poway San Diego San Marcos Santee Solana Beach Vista
	Alpine Bonita Bonsall Borrego Springs Bostonia Camp Pendleton North Camp Pendleton South Casa de Oro-Mount Helix Crest Fairbanks Ranch Fallbrook Granite Hills Imperial Imperial Valley Indio Lakeside Lemon Grove Loma Vista Mission Viejo Mountain View National City Palmdale Poway San Diego San Marcos Santee Solana Beach Vista

CDPs	Harbison Canyon Hidden Meadows Jamul Julian La Presa Lake San Marcos Lakeside Pine Valley Rainbow Ramona Rancho San Diego Rancho Santa Fe San Diego Country Estates Spring Valley Valley Center Winter Gardens
Unincorporated communities	4S Ranch Boulevard • Campo Descanso Dulzura Jacumba Jesmond Dene Lincoln Acres Mount Laguna Ocotillo Wells Pala Potrero Tecate Santa Ysabel



v • d • e

State of [California](#)

[Sacramento](#) (capital)

Topics	Climate Culture Districts Economy Elections Geography Government Modern History Politics Californians
Regions	Antelope Valley Big Sur Cascade Range Central Coast Central Valley Chico Coachella Valley Conejo Valley Cucamonga Valley Death Valley East Bay Emerald Triangle Gold Country Great Basin Greater Los Angeles Inland Empire Los Angeles Basin Mojave North Bay (SF) North Coast Northern California The Peninsula Pomona Valley Redwood Empire Russian River Sacramento Valley San Fernando Valley San Francisco Bay Area San Joaquin Valley Santa Clara Valley Santa Clarita Valley Shasta Cascade Sierra Nevada Silicon Valley South Bay Southern California Tech Coast Tri Valley Wine Country Yosemite
Metro areas	Bakersfield Chico El Centro Fresno Los Angeles–Long Beach–Glendale Merced Napa Oakland–Fremont–Hayward Oxnard–Thousand Oaks–Ventura Riverside–San Bernardino–Ontario Sacramento–Roseville Salinas San Diego San Francisco–San Mateo–Redwood City San Jose–Sunnyvale–Santa Clara Santa Ana–Anaheim–Irvine Santa Barbara–Santa Maria Santa Cruz–Watsonville Santa Rosa–Petaluma Stockton Vallejo–Fairfield Visalia–Porterville Yuba City
Counties	Alameda Alpine Amador Butte Calaveras Colusa Contra Costa Del Norte Glenn Humboldt Imperial Inyo Kern Kings Lake Lassen Los Angeles Mariposa Mendocino Merced Modoc Mono Monterey Napa Nevada Riverside Sacramento San Benito San Bernardino San Diego San Francisco San Joaquin San Luis Obispo San Mateo Santa Barbara Santa Clara Santa Cruz Shasta Sonoma Stanislaus Sutter Tehama Trinity Tulare Tuolumne Ventura Yuba

v • d • e

50 largest cities of the United States by population

[New York City](#) • [Los Angeles](#) • [Chicago](#) • [Houston](#) • [Phoenix](#) • [Philadelphia](#) • [San Antonio](#) • [San Jose](#) • [Detroit](#) • [Jacksonville](#) • [Indianapolis](#) • [San Francisco](#) • [Columbus](#) • [Austin](#) • [Baltimore](#) • [Charlotte](#) • [El Paso](#) • [Boston](#) • [Seattle](#) • [Washington](#) • [Milwaukee](#) • [Denver](#) • [Nashville](#) • [Oklahoma City](#) • [Portland](#) • [Tucson](#) • [Albuquerque](#) • [Atlanta](#) • [Long Beach](#) • [Mesa](#) • [Kansas City](#) • [Cleveland](#) • [Virginia Beach](#) • [Omaha](#) • [Miami](#) • [Oakland](#) • [Tulsa](#) • [Fort Worth](#) • [Colorado Springs](#) • [Arlington](#) • [Wichita](#)




Results from FactBites:

[San Diego County, California - Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia](#) (1111 words)

- ▶ **San Diego County** is a [county](#) located on the Pacific Ocean in the far south of [California](#), along its border with Mexico.
- ▶ **San Diego County** was one of the original [counties](#) of [California](#), and was established at statehood in 1850.
- ▶ According to estimates by the **San Diego** Association of Governments, the per capita income of **San Diego County** in [2005](#) was \$64,273 (not adjusted for inflation).

[San Diego, California - Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia](#) (5506 words)

- ▶ **San Diego** is a coastal Southern [California](#) city located in the southwest of the continental United [States](#).
- ▶ **San Diego** is the home port of the largest naval fleet in the world, including [supercarriers](#) (the USS Nimitz and the USS Ronald Reagan), five [amphibious assault ships](#) and several Los Angeles-class submarines, and many smaller ships.

 **San Diego** has been the home of two [NBA](#) franchises, the first of which **Diego** Rockets.

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