

Costa Mesa, California

Indicators Report

by
The National Economic Education Delegation (NEED)

April 20, 2024

Exploring the economics, demographics, and well-being of Costa Mesa and its residents through indicators.

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Executive Summary

Assessing the City with Indicators

About this Report

This report provides background or summary information for the city of Costa Mesa (the City) in the form of indicators.

Using this Report

Indicators are measures of various aspects of a regional economy. They help to provide an indication of the quality of life in a region and progress toward improving conditions in the local economy. This report focuses on indicators

for changing demographics, incomes, housing markets, commute patterns, and employment in Costa Mesa. These indicators are compared to Orange County (the County) as a whole, a broader region where one is well defined, California, and the United States.

This report is vital for understanding trends in the underlying economy. It does not provide forecasts, but Rob Eyler and Jon Haveman at Economic Forensics and Analytics are available to provide them if that is of interest.

Topics Covered:

- **Demographics:** A detailed snapshot of Costa Mesa demographics is presented. This provides evidence on the size, age and sex, income and poverty status, race and ethnicity, housing status, living arrangements, education, health, and transportation choices of the population. Beyond the current population level, data on trends in local population growth, in comparison with other broader regions is presented, in both tabular and graphical form.
- **Employment Report:** Here, we provide a brief snapshot of employment and unemployment in Costa Mesa and how the City's experience differs from broader regions.
- **Income and Earnings:** Vital to understanding the prosperity of a city relative to its surrounding area is information on income and earnings. We provide a ranking of the City's income relative to all cities in California as well as growth relative to local regions. Inequality and poverty status are also important indicators for the level of equity in the community. We provide evidence of trends in both, not only for all residents, but also for children separately.
- **Housing:** This section provides evidence on the cost and availability of housing. Both median home values and rental costs are included, along with detailed information on home ownership, by age and income, in particular. Further, evidence is provided on the housing burden in the City, again, in comparison with other broader regions. We also provide evidence on the rate at which new buildings and units are permitted along with a broader housing picture. Finally, we provide evidence on the age of the housing stock in Costa Mesa, along with information on how long the City's residents have been in place.
- **Transportation:** Increasingly important, in the wake of the pandemic, is an understanding of the transportation patterns and choices of local residents. We provide detailed evidence on the proportion of residents who work from home and on the various transportation choices of those who head to the office. This information is also provided for those who work in Costa Mesa, but do not necessarily live in Costa Mesa.
- **Migration:** Population changes comes primarily through organic causes: births and deaths. Migration between regions also plays a significant role in population growth. A final section of the report provides evidence on migration into and out of the City.

Contents

Executive Summary	1
Assessing the City with Indicators	1
Demographics	3
A Demographic Snapshot	3
Current Population	5
Employment Report	8
Citywide Employment and Unemployment	8
County Employment by Industry	9
Some Employee Detail	10
Income and Earnings	16
Per Capita Personal Income Growth	16
Poverty and Inequality	19
Housing	21
Housing Costs and Affordability	21
Housing Picture	25
Vintage of Residential Housing	27
Occupation of Residential Housing	29
Residential Permitting	31
Commute Patterns	34
Mode of Transportation	34
Commute Times for Employed Residents	36
Commute Times for Those Employed in the City	37
Place of Work	38
Commute Mode by Income	40
Commute Mode by Poverty Status	41
Migration	42
Overall Migration Flows	42
Demographics of Migration Flows	44
References and Sources	46

Demographics

Definition:

Data on the demographics of a city indicate the nature of the population, with a focus on age, gender, race and ethnicity, as well as household composition.

Why is it important?

The characteristics and growth of Costa Mesa's population are fundamental indicators of the city's growth potential.

A Demographic Snapshot

Statistic	2022	2019
POPULATION		
Population Estimate (#, 5yr)	111,490.0	113,159.0
Veterans (#, 5yr)	3,260.0	4,153.0
Foreign born persons (% , 5yr)	23.2	25.0
Population age 25+ (#, 5yr)	80,299.0	79,848.0
AGE AND SEX		
Persons under 5 years (% , 5yr)	5.3	5.8
Persons under 18 years (% , 5yr)	18.9	20.3
Persons 65 years and over (% , 5yr)	13.0	11.3
Female persons (% , 5yr)	48.4	49.7
INCOME AND POVERTY		
Median household income (\$, 5yr)	104,981.0	84,138.0
Per capita income in past 12 months (\$, 5yr)	53,888.0	41,136.0
Persons in poverty (% , 5yr)	9.5	11.9
Children age less than 18 in poverty (#, 5yr)	2,164.0	3,157.0
Children age less than 18 in poverty (% , 5yr)	10.5	14.1
RACE AND ETHNICITY		
White alone (% , 5yr)	56.9	71.0
African American alone (% , 5yr)	1.4	1.8
American Indian or Alaska Native alone (% , 5yr)	1.1	0.6
Asian alone (% , 5yr)	9.0	8.5
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone (% , 5yr)	0.4	0.8
Two or More Races (% , 5yr)	12.3	4.1
Hispanic or Latino (% , 5yr)	36.2	35.6
White alone, not Hispanic or Latino (% , 5yr)	48.8	50.1
HOUSING		
Housing units (#, 5yr)	43,409.0	43,122.0
Owner-occupied housing units (% , 5yr)	39.7	38.3
Median value of owner-occupied housing units (\$, 5yr)	959,800.0	749,400.0
Median selected monthly owner costs-with a mortgage (\$, 5yr)	3,215.0	2,883.0
Median selected monthly owner costs-without a mortgage (\$, 5yr)	713.0	577.0
Median gross rent (\$, 5yr)	2,268.0	1,857.0
FAMILIES AND LIVING ARRANGEMENTS		
Households (#, 5yr)	41,407.0	40,986.0
Persons per household (#, 5yr)	2.6	2.7
Living in same house 1 year ago, % of persons age 1+ (5yr)	83.8	84.7
EDUCATION		
High school graduate or higher, % of persons age 25+ (5yr)	87.9	85.2
Bachelor's degree or higher, % of persons age 25+ (5yr)	42.5	40.3
HEALTH		
With a disability, under age 65 years (#, 5yr)	4,824.0	5,007.0
Persons without health insurance, under age 65 years (% , 5yr)	10.5	11.6
LABOR FORCE		
In civilian labor force, persons age 16+ (% , 5yr)	73.2	72.8
In civilian labor force, women age 16+ (% , 5yr)	67.1	66.5
Employed, persons age 16+ (% , 5yr)	67.6	67.9
Self employed (% , 5yr)	14.0	14.3
TRANSPORTATION		
Mean travel time to work, workers age 16+ (Mins., 5yr)	18.3	21.2
Drive alone in private vehicle (% , 5yr)	67.8	77.4
Using public transportation (% , 5yr)	2.8	3.1
Worked from home (% , 5yr)	17.0	8.0

Source: American Community Survey, Summary Files

Note: Data are from the 1-year files unless indicated by the notation 5yr.

Current Population

The data in these two tables and the following two graphs are from the CA Department of Finance (DOF). The DOF produces population estimates for geographies around California twice a year: January and July. As estimates for cities are only available in January, these two tables are based on the January data. The remaining figures are from the American Community Survey (ACS), provided annually by the U.S. Bureau of the Census.

Table 1. Population Change by Region
(Thousands, January to January)

Region	2023 Population	% Change		
		1 Year	3 Year	5 Year
City				
Costa Mesa	111,183	-0.42	-2.19	-2.93
County and Broader Regions				
Orange County	3,137,164	-0.47	-1.36	-2.37
Southern California	21,794,548	-0.41	-2.24	-2.84
California	38,940,231	-0.35	-1.79	-2.01

Source: CA DOF; Calculations by National Economic Education Delegation

Table 2. County Population Change by City
(Thousands, January to January)

City	2022	2023	% Change		
			Local	Southern California	California
Orange County	3,151.9	3,137.2	-0.47	-0.41	-0.35
Anaheim	335.9	328.6	-2.19		
Irvine	305.7	303.1	-0.86		
Santa Ana	304.3	299.6	-1.52		
Huntington Beach	196.5	195.7	-0.38		
Garden Grove	171.2	171.2	-0.01		
Fullerton	143.0	142.9	-0.10		
Orange	138.2	139.1	0.66		
Costa Mesa	111.6	111.2	-0.42		
Mission Viejo	92.1	91.8	-0.30		
Westminster	90.7	90.5	-0.18		
Lake Forest	86.6	87.1	0.59		
Buena Park	83.4	83.5	0.19		
Newport Beach	83.7	83.4	-0.29		
Tustin	79.7	79.6	-0.17		
Yorba Linda	67.3	67.1	-0.32		
Laguna Niguel	65.0	64.7	-0.47		
San Clemente	63.4	63.2	-0.31		
La Habra	62.0	61.8	-0.33		
Fountain Valley	57.0	57.0	0.02		
Placentia	51.3	52.5	2.30		
Aliso Viejo	51.0	50.8	-0.49		
Cypress	49.9	49.8	-0.12		
Brea	46.9	48.2	2.63		
Rancho Santa Margarita	47.3	47.1	-0.49		
Stanton	39.0	39.1	0.25		
San Juan Capistrano	34.9	35.1	0.63		
Dana Point	33.0	33.2	0.44		
Laguna Hills	30.7	30.5	-0.46		
Seal Beach	24.9	24.6	-0.90		
Laguna Beach	22.5	22.4	-0.27		
Laguna Woods	17.5	17.4	-0.49		
La Palma	15.4	15.3	-0.45		
Los Alamitos	11.9	12.1	1.98		
Villa Park	5.8	5.8	-0.02		

Source: CA DOF; Calculations by National Economic Education Delegation

Figure 1: Population Growth (1)

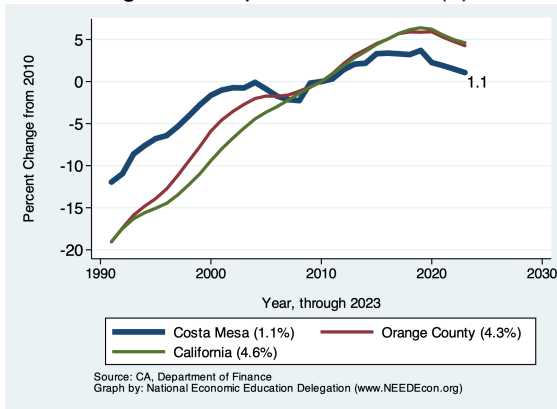


Figure 2: Population Growth (2)

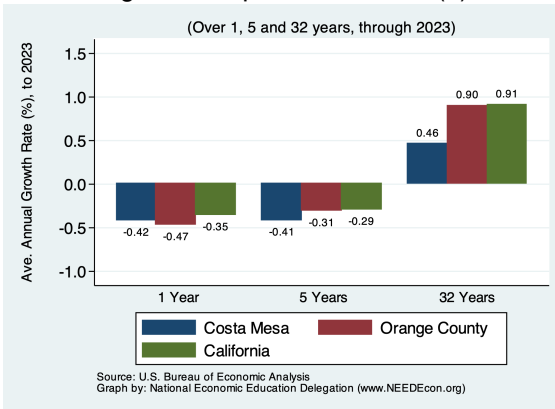


Figure 3: Population by Age - Detailed Age Categories

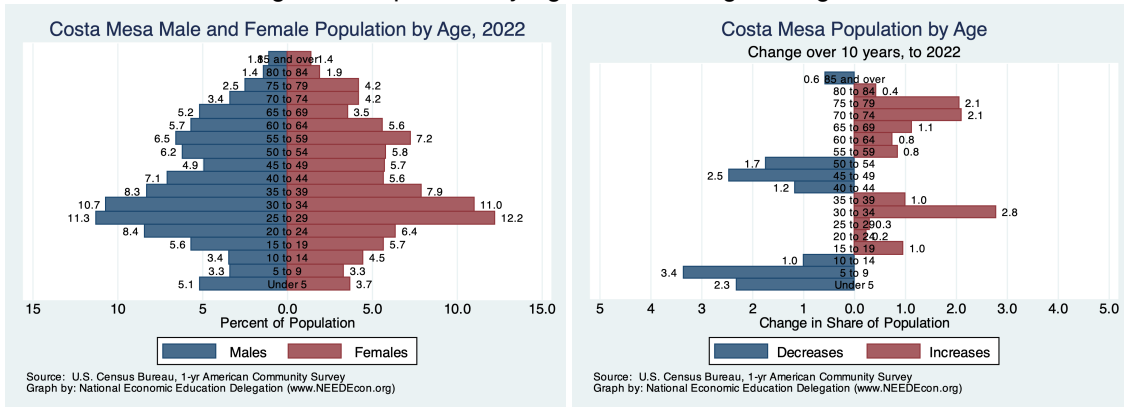


Figure 4: Population by Age - Broad Age Categories

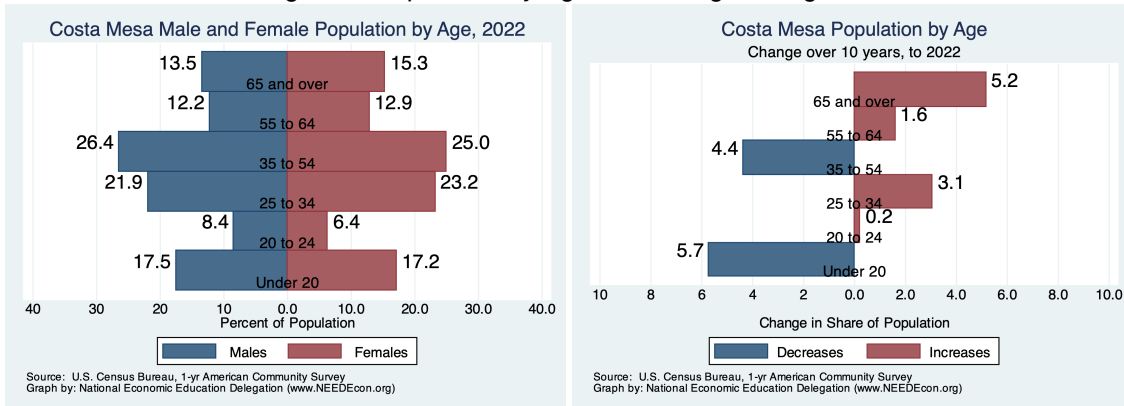


Figure 5: Population by Educational Attainment

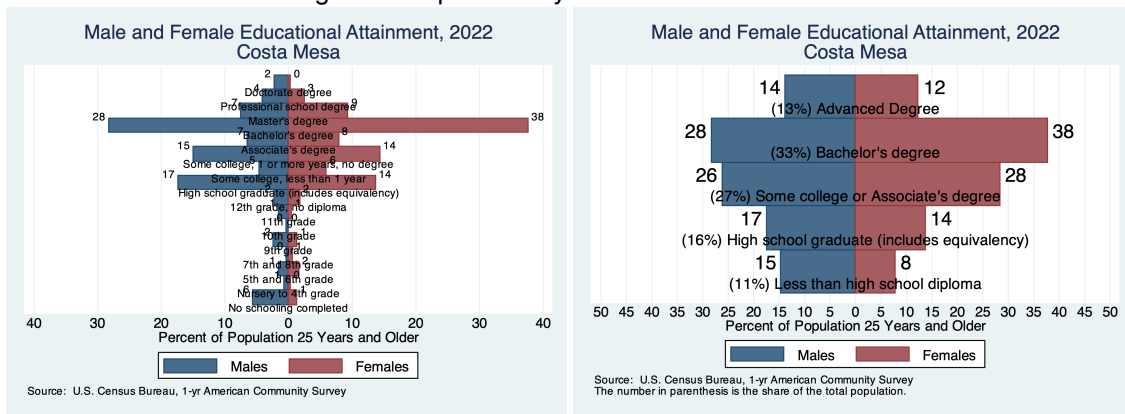


Figure 6: Population by Race/Ethnicity

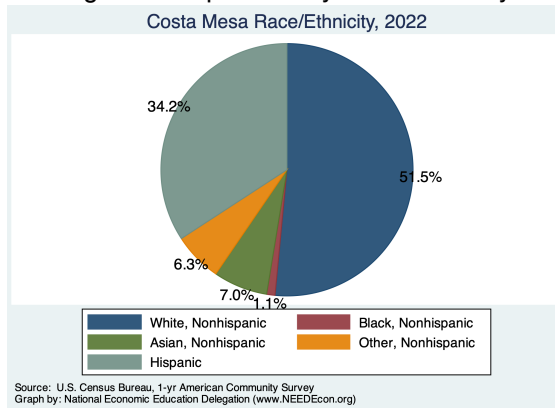
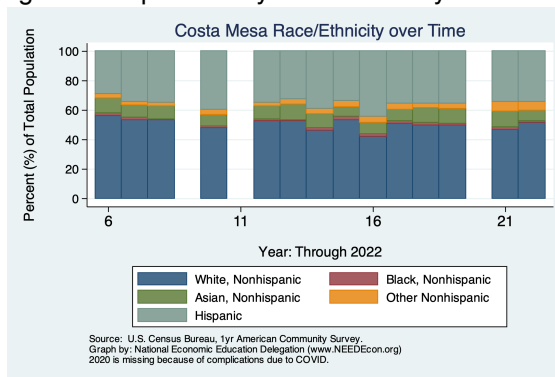


Figure 7: Population by Race/Ethnicity Over Time



Employment Report

Citywide Employment and Unemployment

Definition:

Each month, California's Employment Development Division (EDD) publishes an update on employment in California and in MSAs, counties, and cities all across the state. The report focuses primarily on non-farm employment, providing estimates of changes in em-

ployment by industry as well as unemployment in each region. Data for cities is limited to aggregate employment, labor force, and unemployment data. Those are reported below.

Why is it important?

Employment growth is a fundamental indicator of the health of an economy.

Table 3. Costa Mesa Summary for March, 2024

Category	Current Value	Change From:		
		Last Month	2 Months Ago	Last Year
Employment	8,924	-30	-53	-103
Labor Force	9,644	9	15	96
Number Unemployed	678	-4	21	97
Unemployment Rate	7.0	-0.0	0.2	0.9

Source: EDD, National Economic Education Delegation

Figure 8: Historical Employment and Unemployment - Last 12 Months



Figure 9: Employment and Unemployment - Last 12 Months

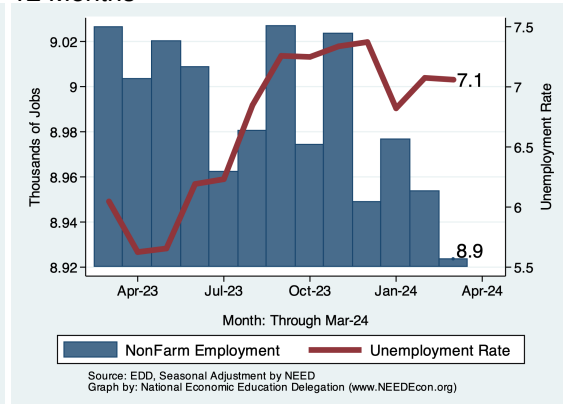


Figure 10: Relative Employment Growth Across Regions - since 2010

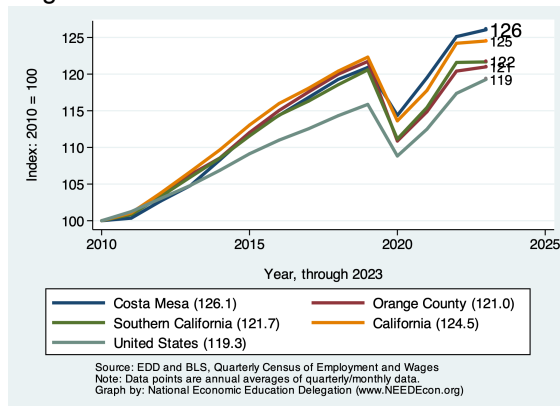
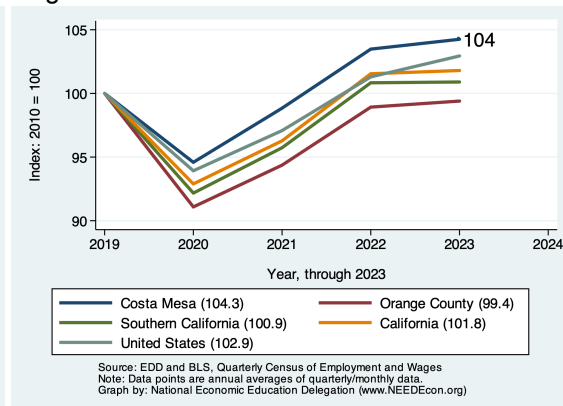


Figure 11: Relative Employment Growth Across Regions - since 2019



County Employment by Industry

California's Employment Development Division (EDD) does not regularly produce data on employment by industry for cities. However, we are able to report industry-level employment data for Orange County. The following table provides the latest data for the County.

Table 4. Employment Growth by Industry in Orange County for March, 2024

Industry	Employment	Share	Empl Growth	% Growth - Annualized Rate					
				Month	Qtr	6mo	1yr	3yr	5yr
Total Nonfarm	1,704,677	100.0	6,550.8	4.7	3.1	2.4	1.9	3.3	0.4
Total Private	1,541,986	90.5	6,278.0	5.0	3.2	2.5	1.8	3.4	0.5
Goods Producing	261,488	15.3	411.3	1.9	-1.9	-0.0	0.3	1.5	-0.4
Mining, Logging and Construction	106,369	6.2	1,018.8	12.2	-3.2	2.3	2.6	1.4	0.0
Mining and Logging	300	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-8.0
Construction	105,995	6.2	919.4	11.0	-3.6	2.1	2.6	1.4	0.0
Manufacturing	155,148	9.1	-444.4	-3.4	-1.1	-1.9	-1.2	1.5	-0.7
Durable Goods	116,767	6.8	-95.6	-1.0	1.2	-1.6	-0.9	1.8	-0.4
Non-Durable Goods	38,408	2.3	-327.6	-9.7	-5.8	-2.8	-1.8	0.6	-1.6
Service Providing	1,443,479	84.7	6,591.2	5.6	4.4	2.5	2.1	3.7	0.6
Trade, Trans & Utilities	262,337	15.4	562.6	2.6	0.5	0.2	0.0	1.5	0.1
Wholesale Trade	80,836	4.7	167.7	2.5	-0.7	-1.0	-0.1	1.5	-0.1
Retail Trade	146,647	8.6	369.0	3.1	0.1	1.1	0.5	0.8	-0.6
Trans & Warehousing	31,588	1.9	171.6	6.8	5.2	-1.8	-1.9	4.8	3.9
Information	21,685	1.3	55.2	3.1	-2.3	-4.7	-5.7	-2.6	-3.5
Financial Activities	103,389	6.1	-89.2	-1.0	0.9	-0.7	-0.8	-4.0	-2.2
Finance & Insurance	61,918	3.6	42.0	0.8	-0.0	-2.3	-2.9	-7.2	-3.9
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	41,527	2.4	-109.4	-3.1	2.1	2.7	2.5	2.6	0.9
Professional & Business Svcs	324,490	19.0	1,362.8	5.2	5.4	2.5	1.0	0.1	-0.1
Prof, Sci, & Tech	141,484	8.3	78.9	0.7	2.5	2.6	1.5	2.4	1.5
Admin & Support Svcs	139,656	8.2	1,147.2	10.4	10.0	2.6	0.1	-2.3	-1.5
Employment Svcs	63,712	3.7	840.6	17.3	14.1	2.2	-1.8	-7.3	-3.4
Educational & Health Svcs	274,719	16.1	1,424.2	6.4	5.3	5.3	6.0	5.9	3.8
Education Svcs	39,649	2.3	-189.7	-5.6	-1.1	1.9	3.9	11.9	5.4
Health Care & Social Assistance	234,185	13.7	1,519.1	8.1	5.0	4.8	6.4	4.9	3.5
Leisure & Hospitality	234,608	13.8	2,031.9	11.0	4.3	3.1	3.1	18.2	0.7
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	59,924	3.5	1,760.9	43.0	21.0	14.5	10.3	65.4	2.2
Accommodation & Food Svcs	174,745	10.3	281.9	2.0	-0.7	0.5	0.9	11.1	0.2
Other Svcs	56,860	3.3	193.3	4.2	4.1	3.8	4.0	8.7	2.1
Government	163,068	9.6	280.7	2.1	2.3	1.6	2.7	2.3	0.0
Federal	10,850	0.6	53.4	6.1	7.3	2.8	1.9	-0.9	-0.4
State	33,620	2.0	33.4	1.2	2.3	0.6	2.0	0.1	0.7
Local	118,731	7.0	304.5	3.1	2.6	1.4	3.0	3.3	-0.1
County	18,417	1.1	66.4	4.4	-6.8	-3.0	-1.7	0.7	-0.8
City	16,631	1.0	-49.0	-3.5	6.9	4.5	5.7	6.1	0.6
Local Government Education	75,924	4.5	261.8	4.2	3.5	1.5	3.4	3.5	-0.2

Source: EDD, National Economic Education Delegation (NEED)

Some Employee Detail

Employed in Costa Mesa

Figure 12: Employment by Occupation

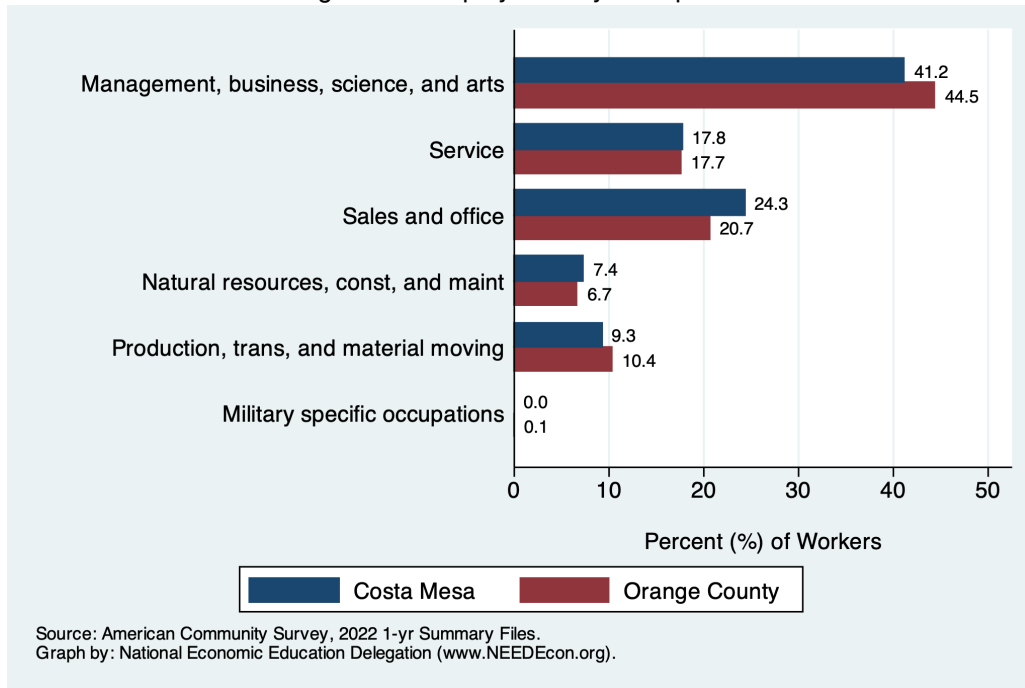


Figure 13: Employment by Industry

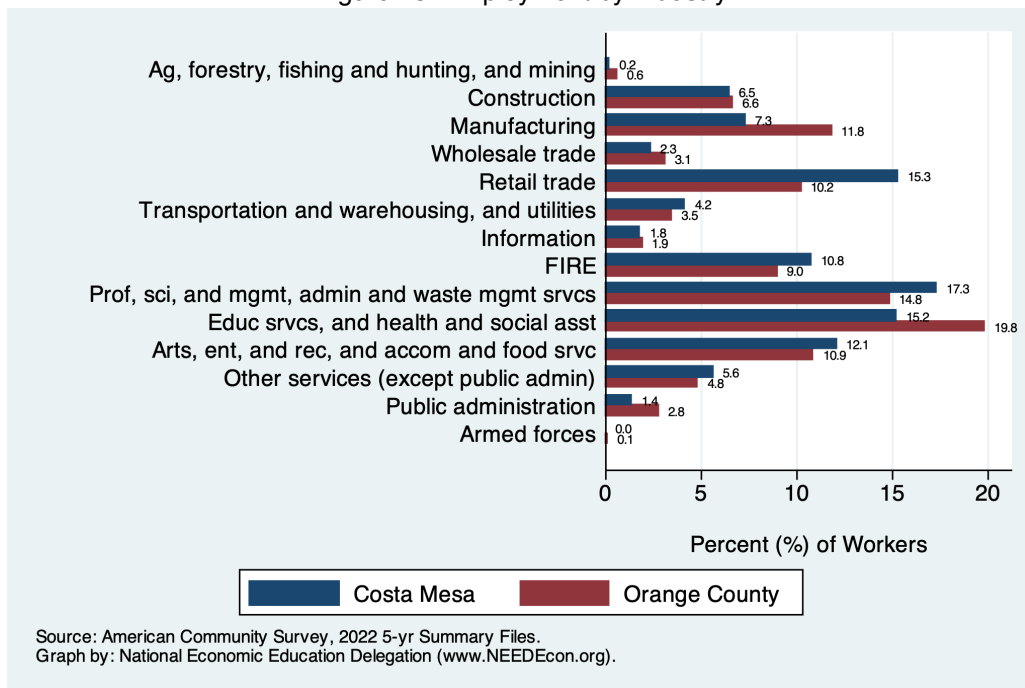


Figure 14: Language Spoken at Home

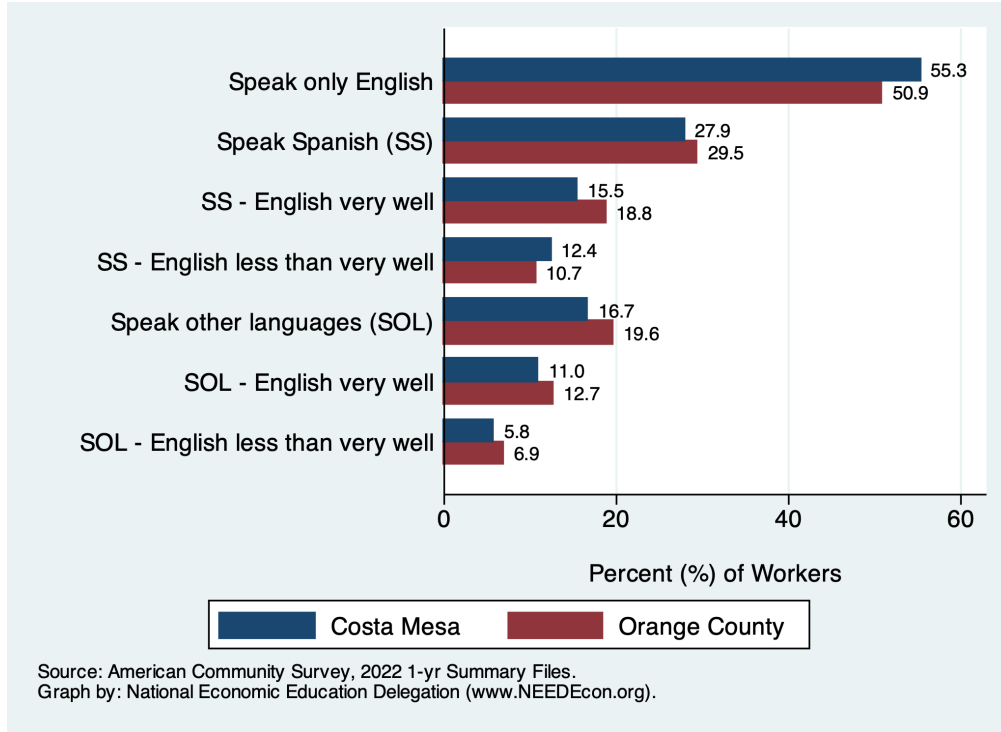
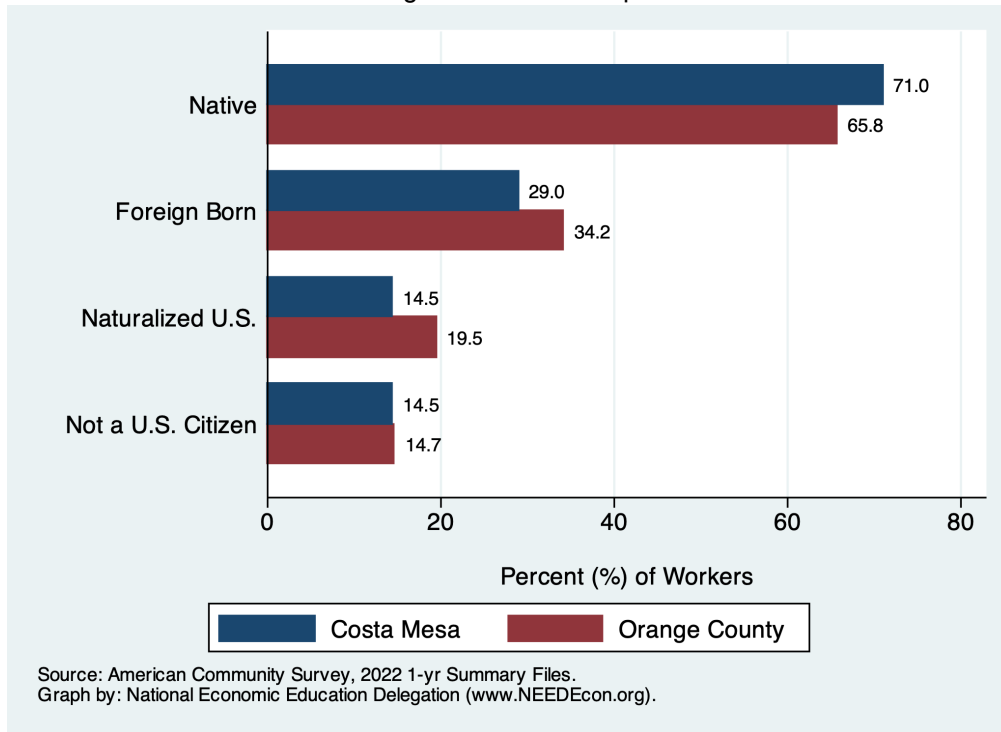


Figure 15: Citizenship



Employed Residents of Costa Mesa

Figure 16: Employment by Occupation

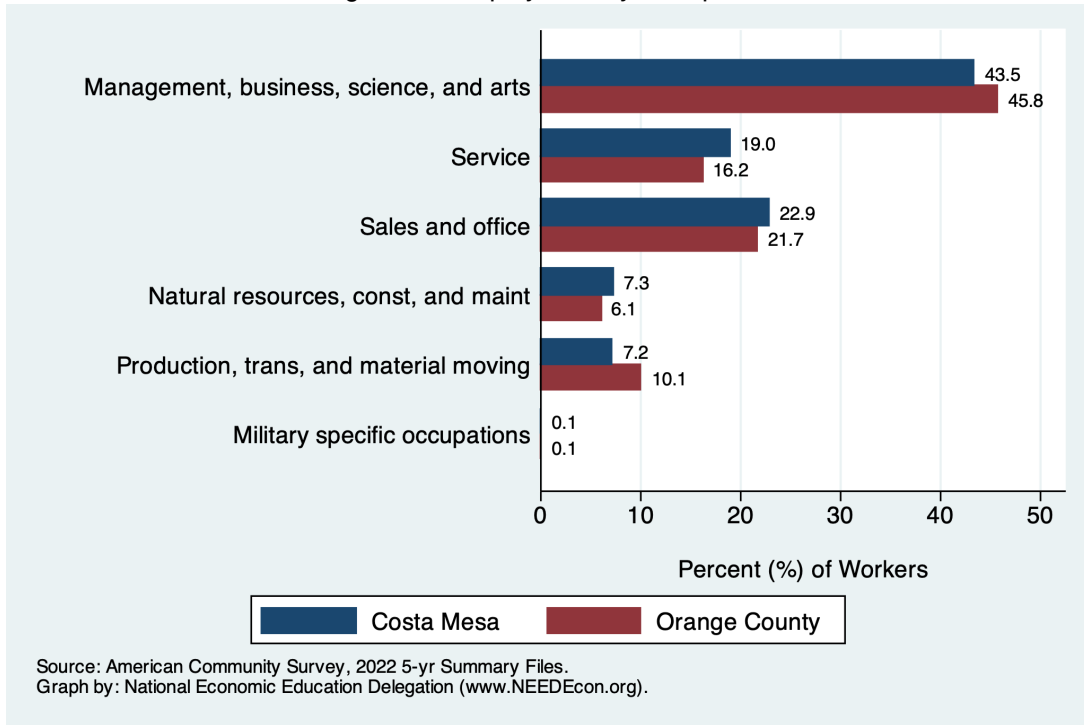


Figure 17: Employment by Industry

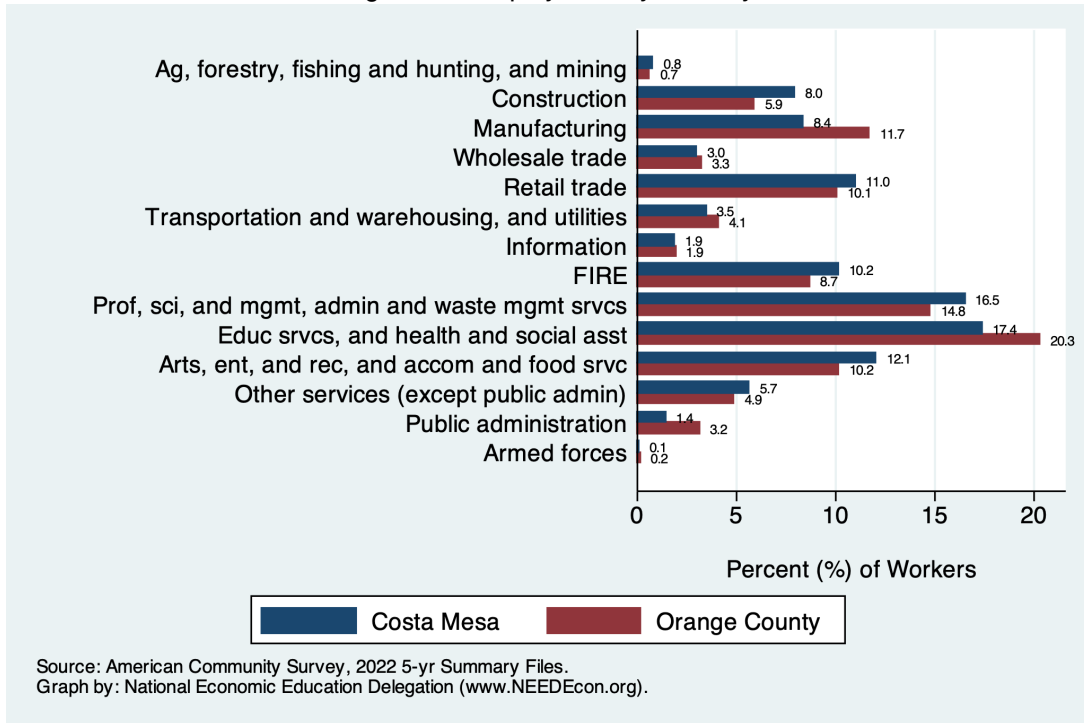


Figure 18: Language Spoken at Home

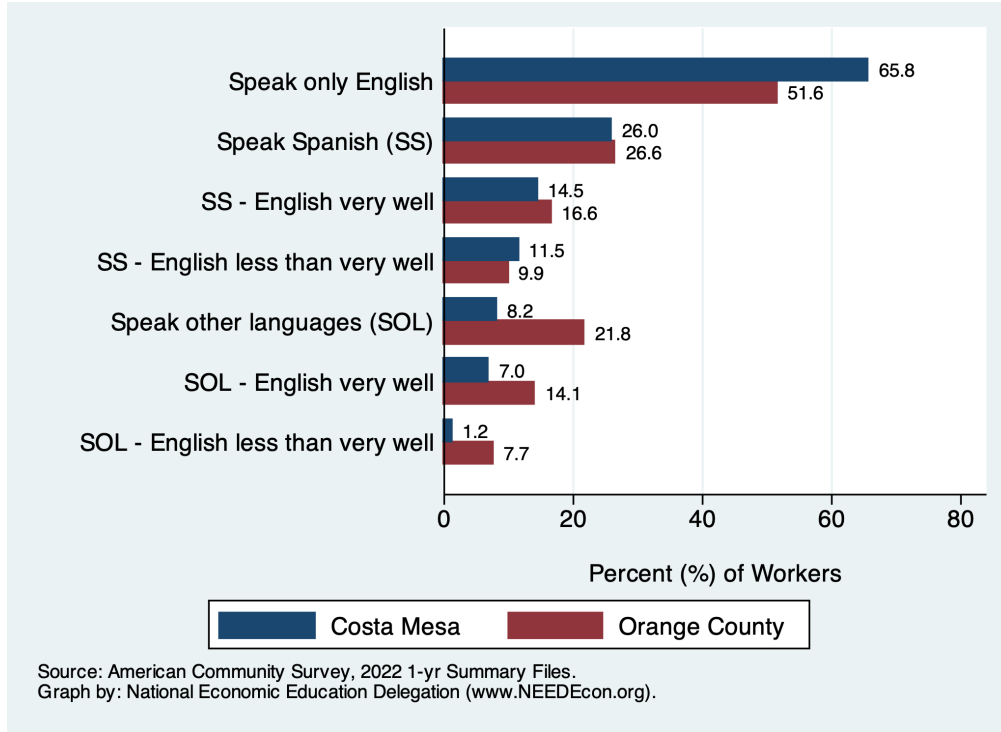
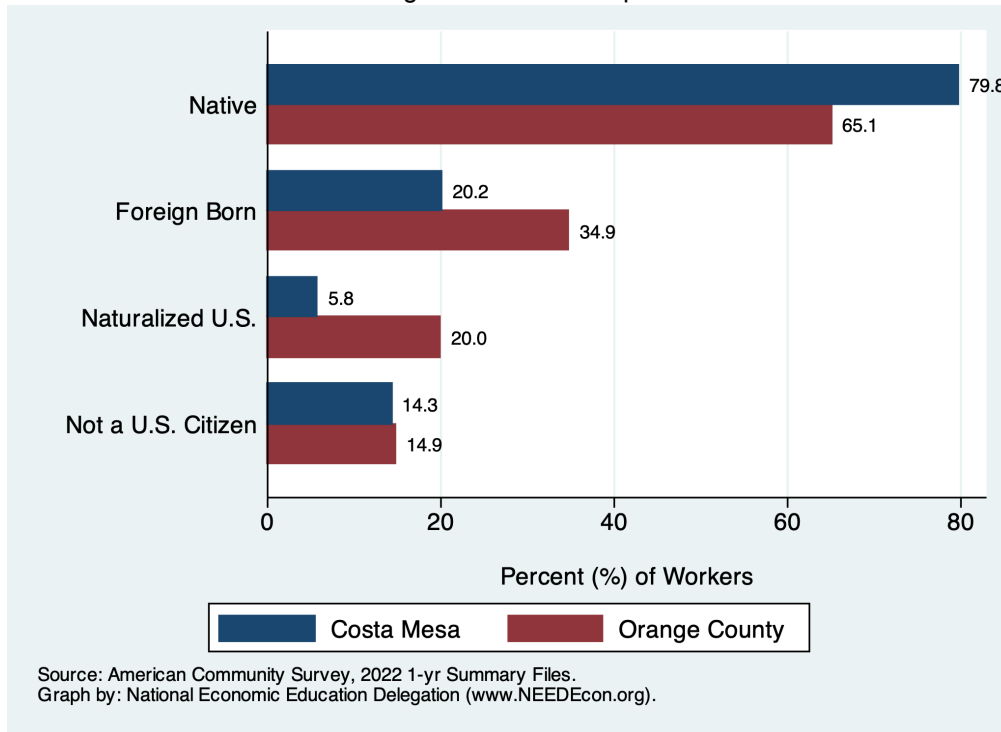


Figure 19: Citizenship



Employed Residents vs Workers in Costa Mesa

Figure 20: Employment by Occupation

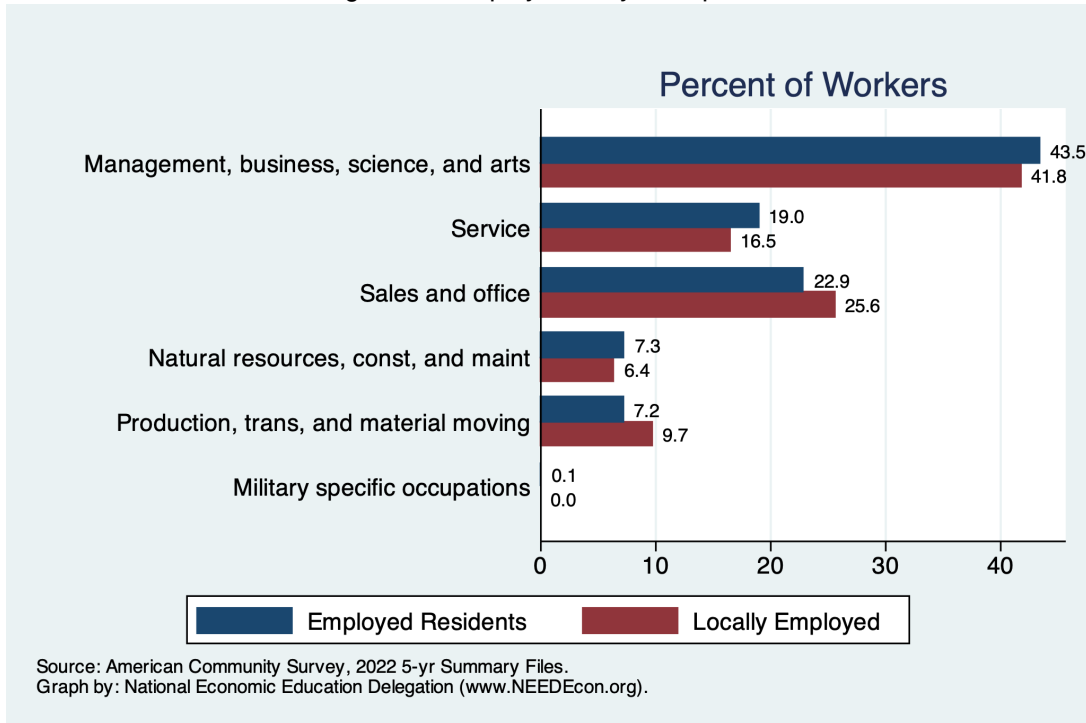


Figure 21: Employment by Industry

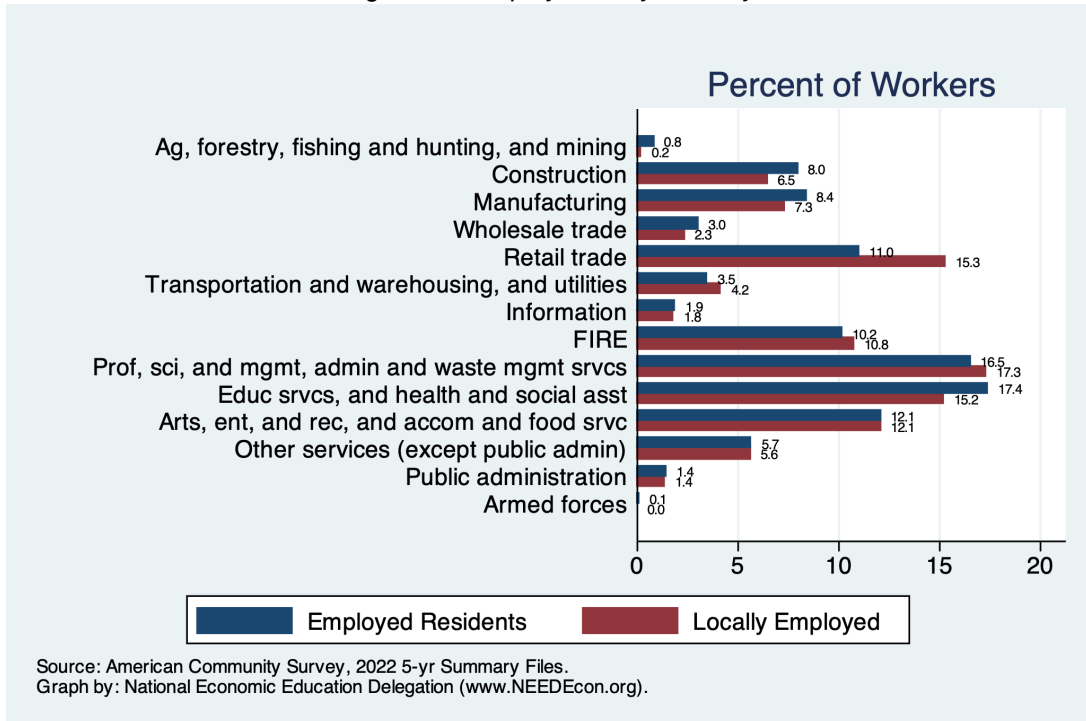


Figure 22: Language Spoken at Home

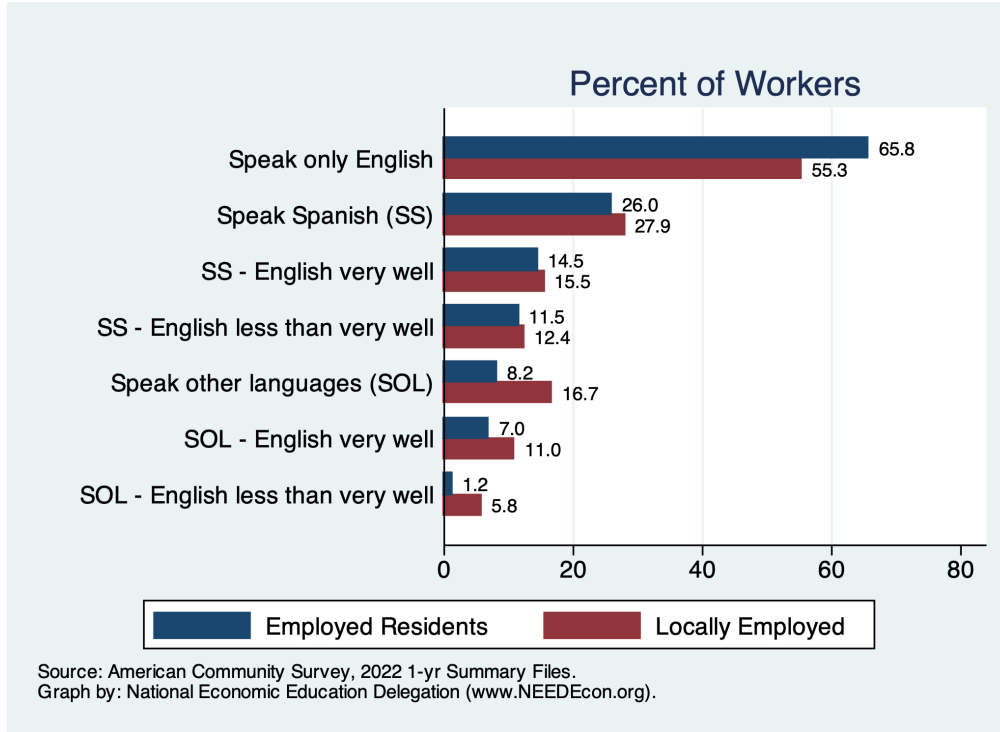
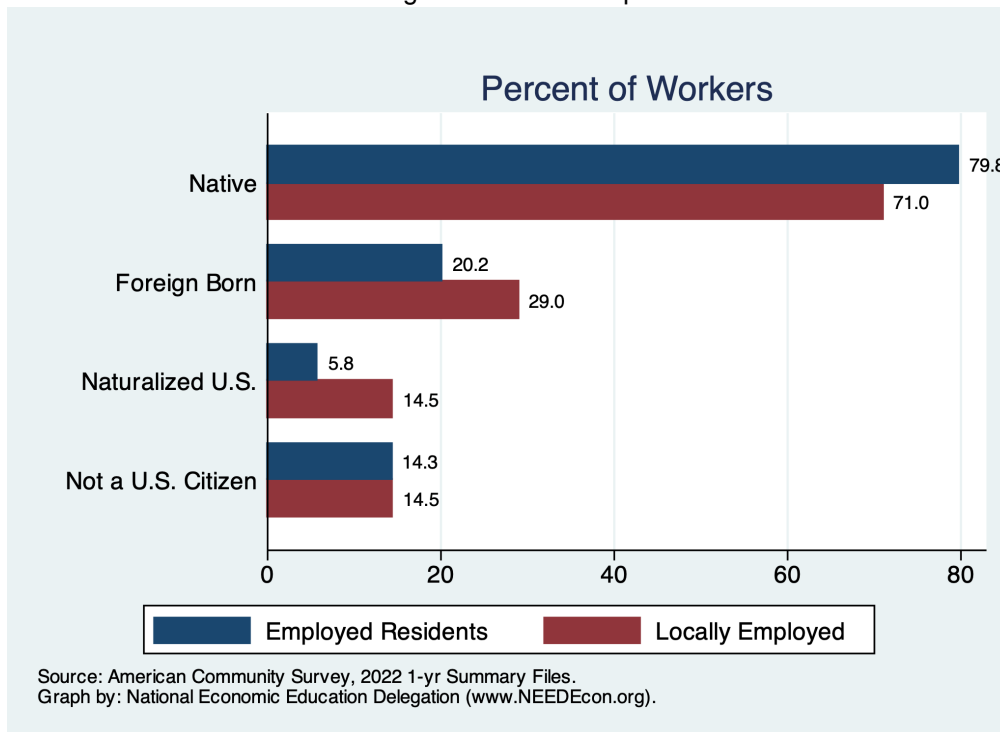


Figure 23: Citizenship



Income and Earnings

Per Capita Income Growth

Definition:

Per capita income is the average income per person in Costa Mesa. Personal income is the income received by, or on behalf of, all persons from all sources: from participation as laborers in production, from owning a home or unincorporated business, from the ownership of financial assets, and from government and business

in the form of transfer receipts. Noncash government benefits are not included.

Why is it important?

Income is the money that is available to persons for consumption expenditures, taxes, interest payments, transfer payments to governments and the rest of the world, or for saving. As such, it is an important indicator of economic well-being in a community.

Figure 24: Real Per Capita Income Ranking Among California Cities

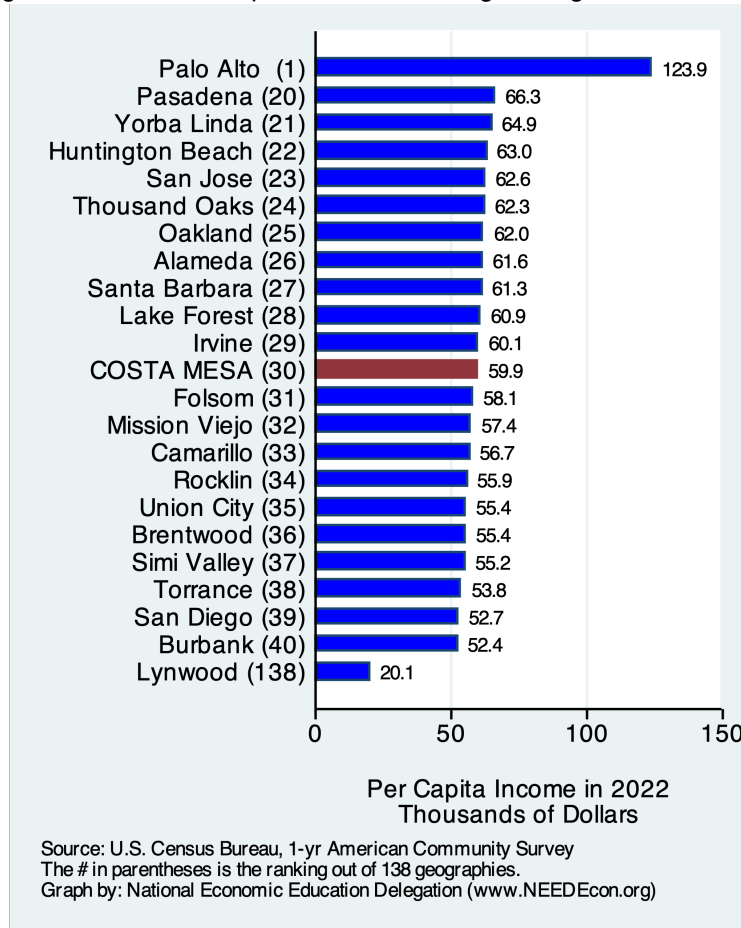
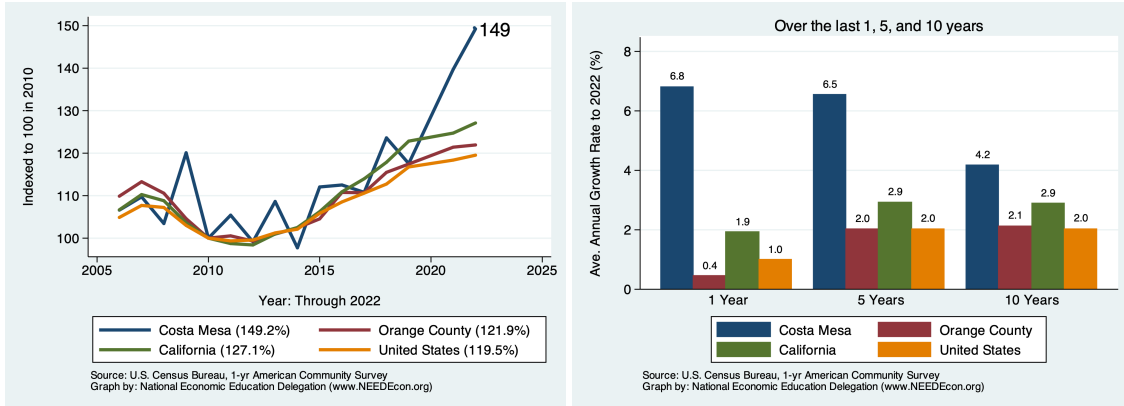


Figure 25: Regional Comparison of Growth over Time



Real Per Capita Income Ranking Among California Cities - w/Comparable Populations

Figure 26: Income Levels

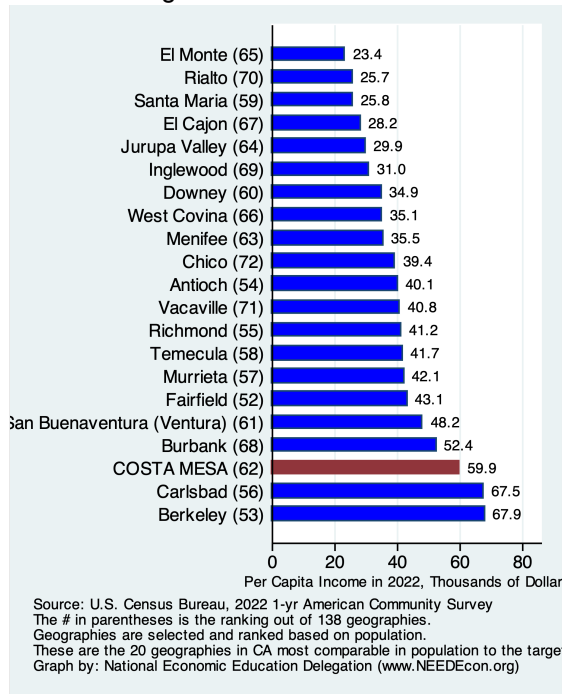
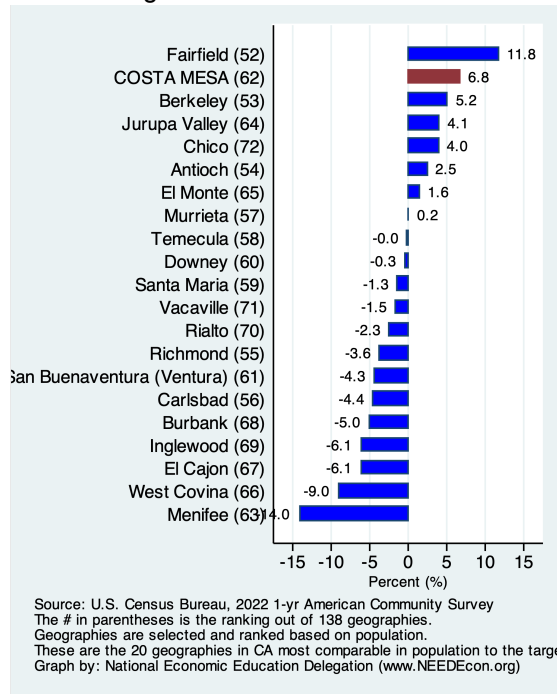


Figure 27: Growth over Time



Real Per Capita Income Ranking Among Cities in Orange County

Figure 28: Income Levels

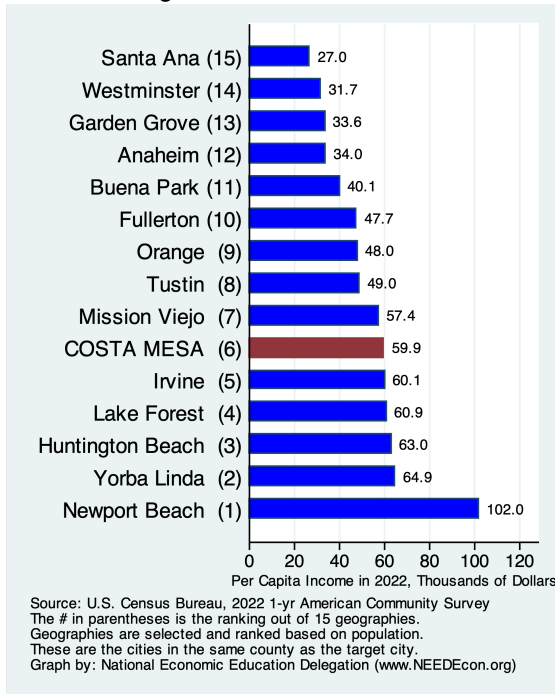


Figure 29: Growth over Time

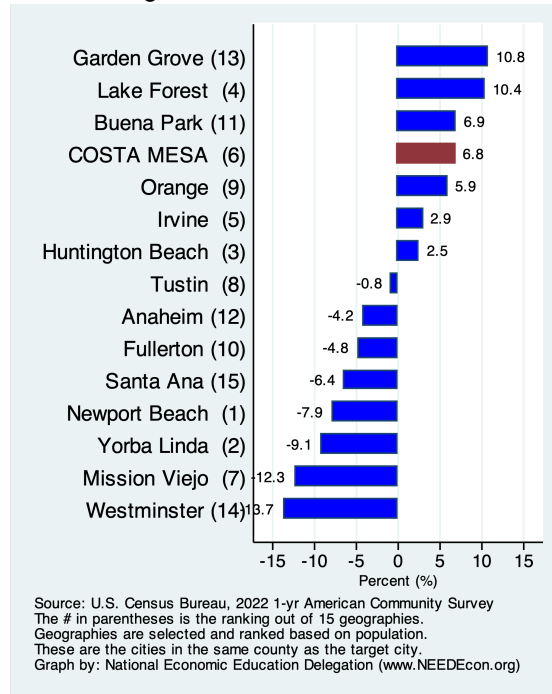
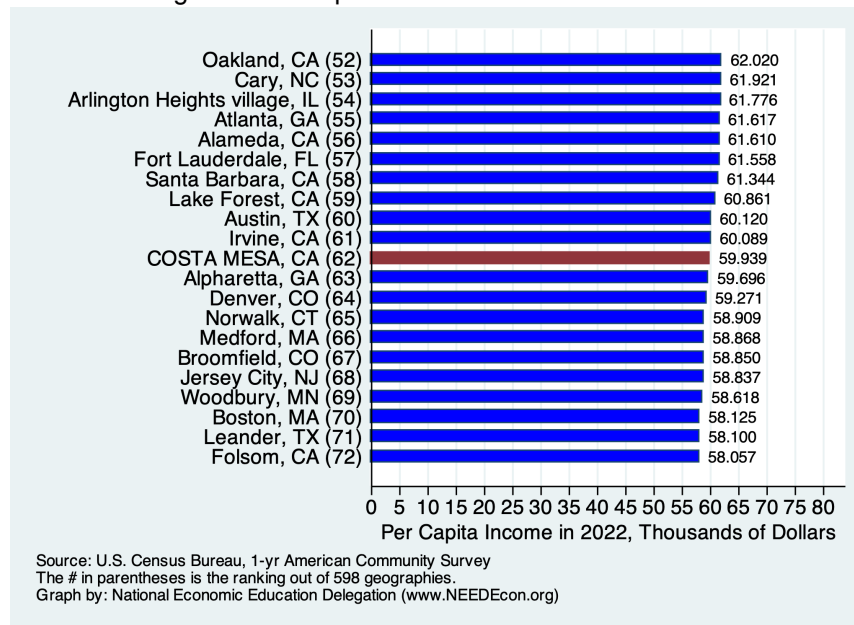


Figure 30: Comparison with All Cities Nationwide



Poverty and Inequality

Definition:

The local poverty rate provides an indication of the well-being of those at the bottom of the income distribution. The federal poverty rate measures the proportion of households in the region that are classified as living in poverty. Also included are measures of the extent to which the City's children are impoverished. Measures of the income distribution provide

further evidence on disparities in income in the region and how those disparities have changed over time.

Why is it important?

It is important to track measures of poverty and inequality to assess the extent of income disparities in the region, with an eye toward understanding how well the local economy is performing for all of its citizens.

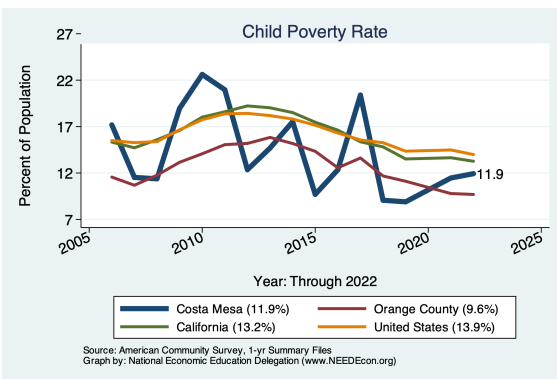
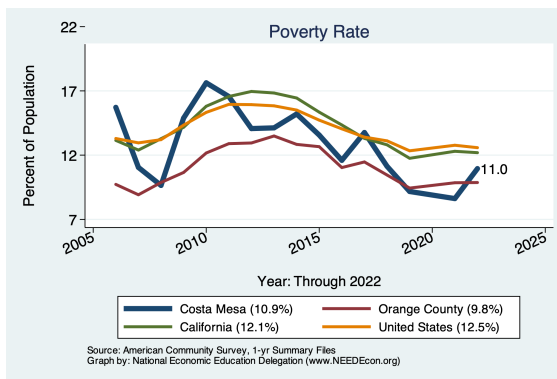


Figure 31: Inequality

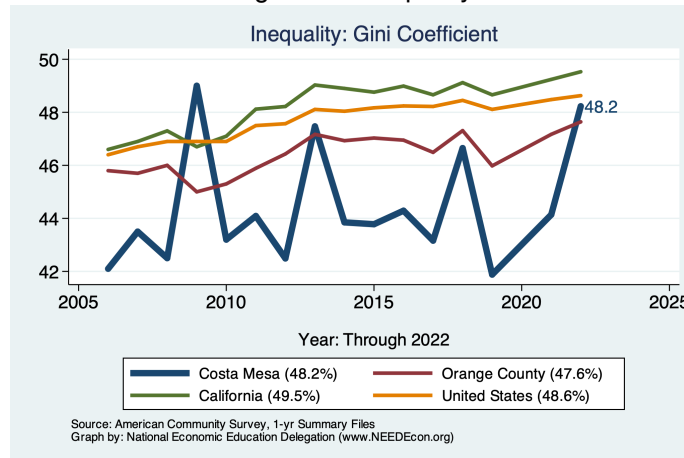


Figure 32: Shares Across the Income Distribution

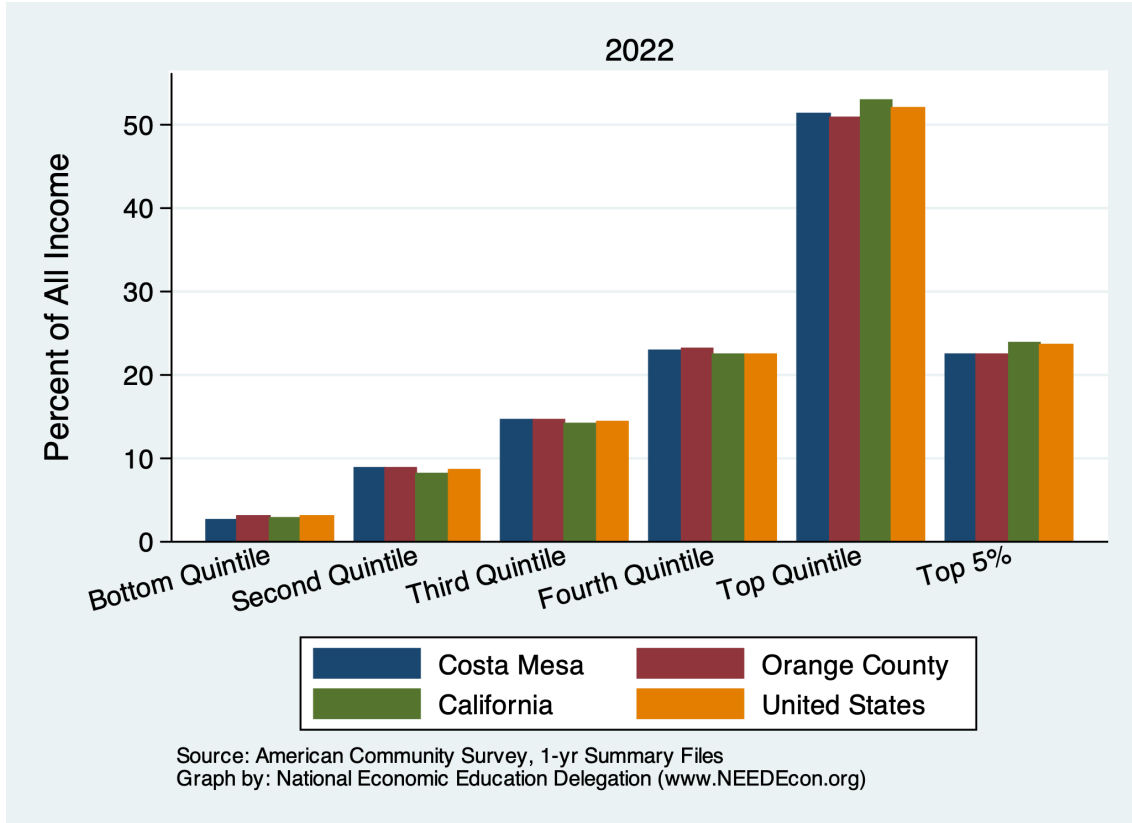
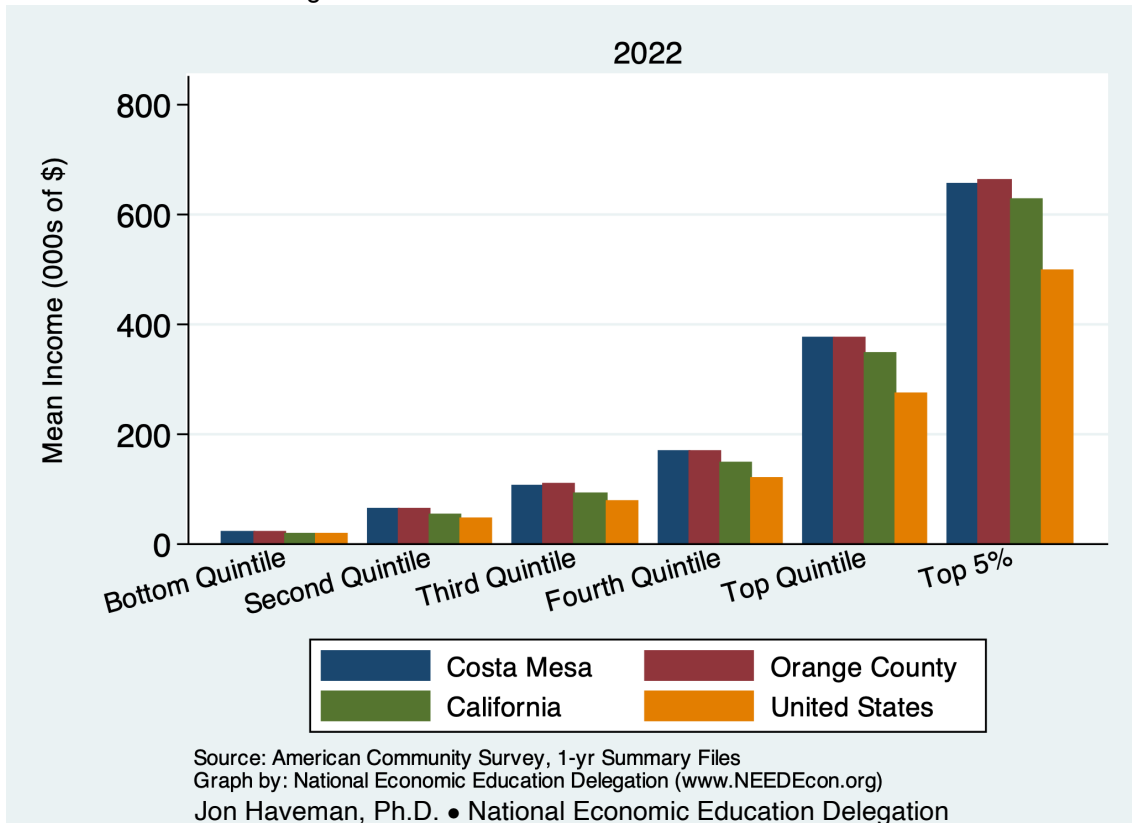


Figure 33: Means Across the Income Distribution



Housing

Housing Costs and Affordability

Definition:

Housing costs are measured in several different ways. First, we provide evidence on the evolution of median home prices, median rental price, and finally through evidence on the housing burden in the city and comparison regions. Housing burden is defined as a household needing to commit more than 30% of their household income toward housing costs. The median value is the amount in the middle. Fifty

percent of units are above the median and 50 percent are below.

Why is it important?

Housing is one of three fundamental necessities, along with food and clothing. A measure of the cost of housing is an integral part of the measurement of the cost of living in a specific community. This is particularly true in cities and regions throughout the Bay Area, where housing costs are high relative to income.

Cost of Housing in Costa Mesa and Broader Regions

Figure 34: Median Home Prices

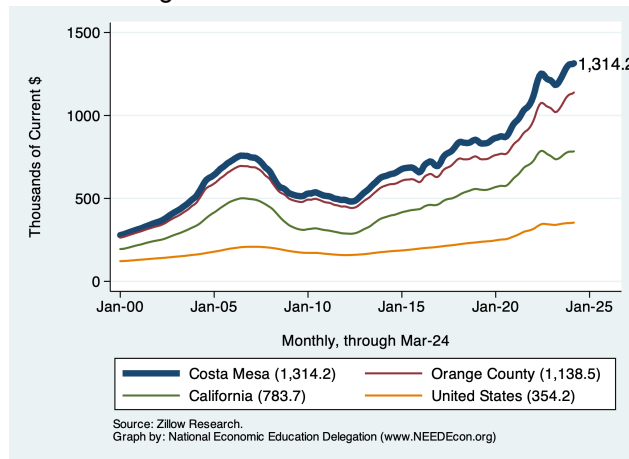
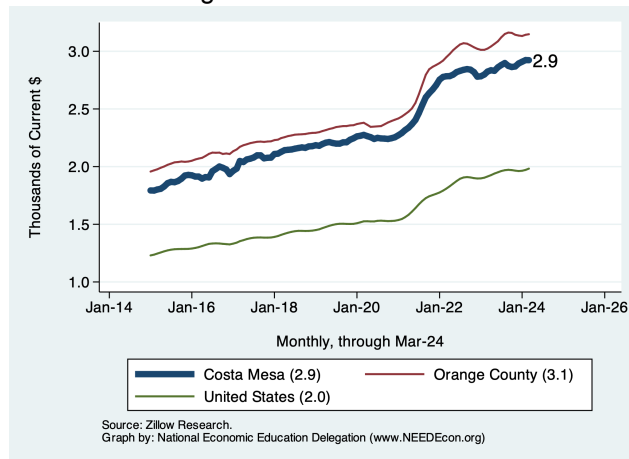


Figure 35: Median Rents



Housing Ownership in Costa Mesa and Broader Regions

Figure 36: Home Ownership Rates

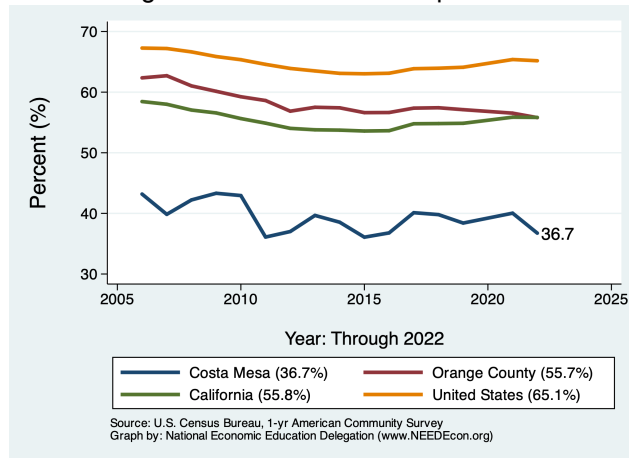


Figure 37: Home Ownership by Age

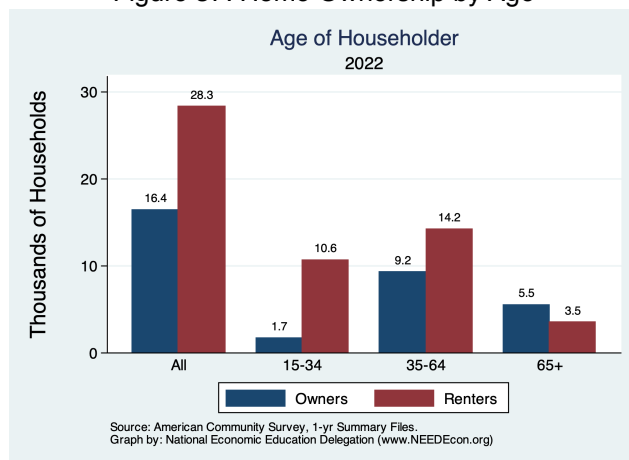


Figure 38: Income by Tenure

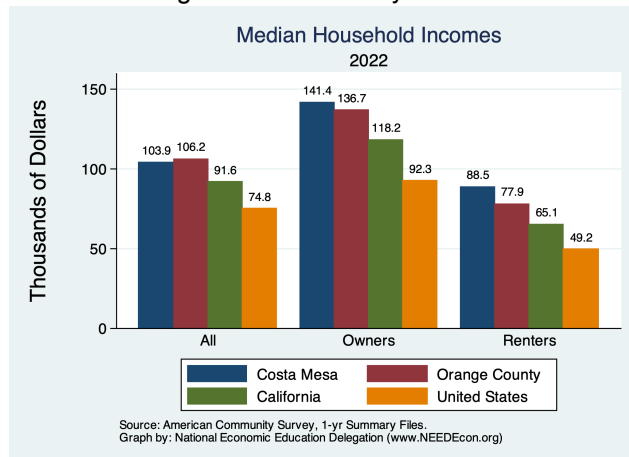


Figure 39: Income Distribution by Tenure

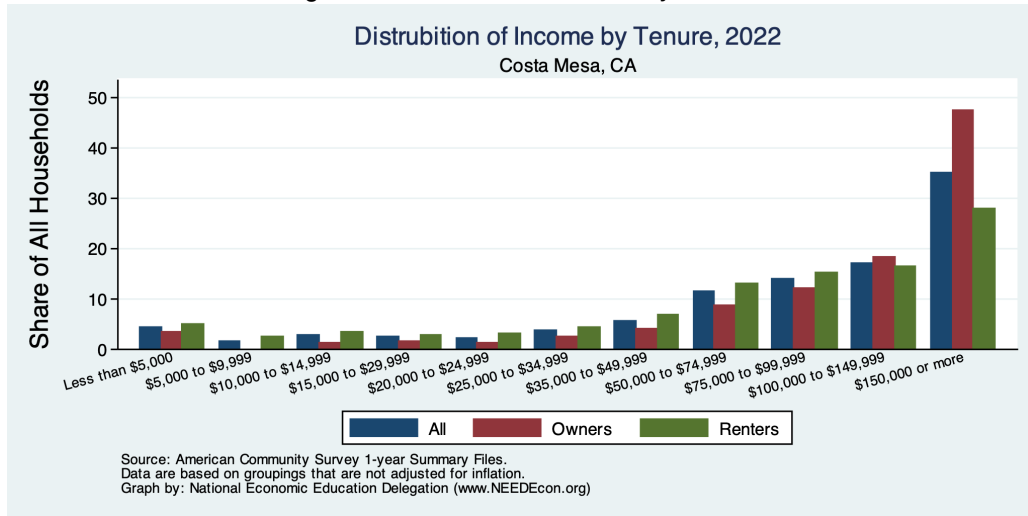


Figure 40: Income Distribution of Home Owners

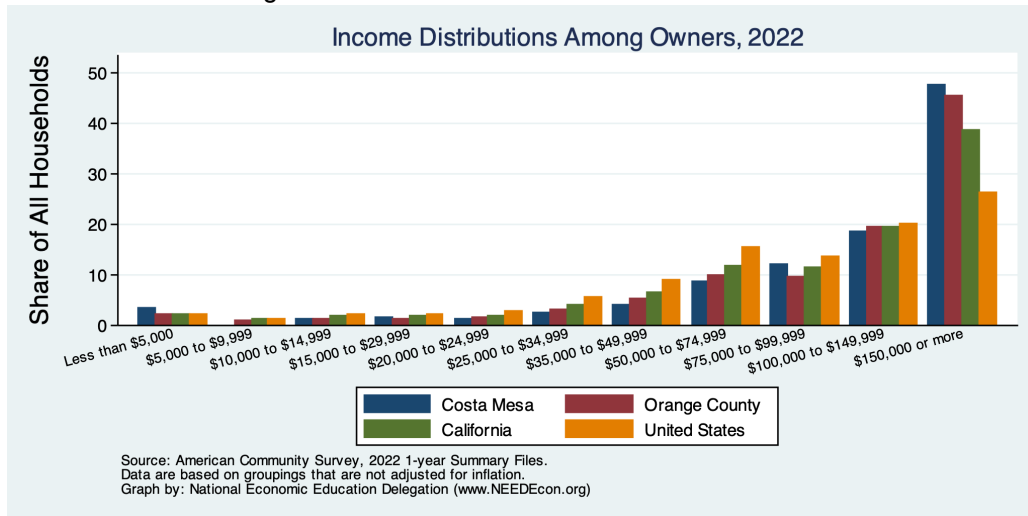
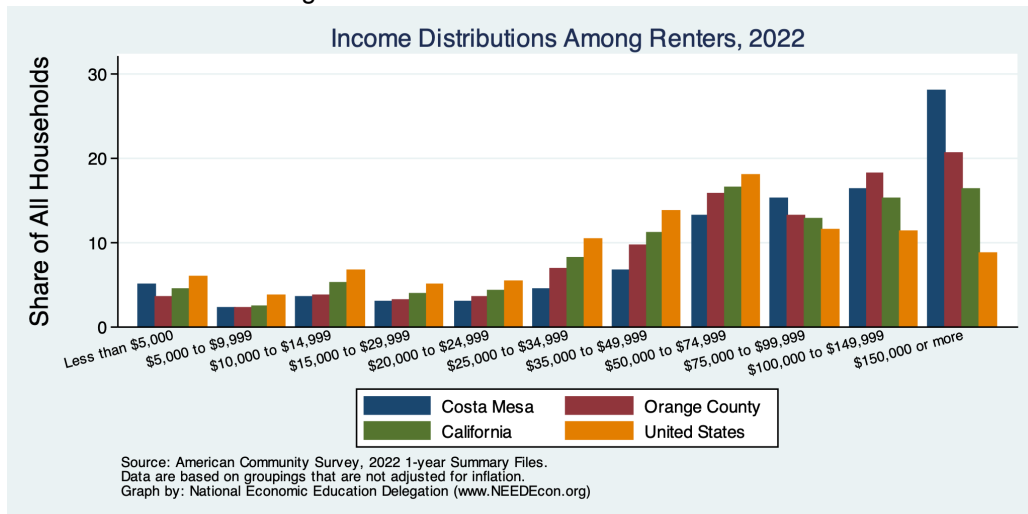


Figure 41: Income Distribution of Renters



Housing Burden in Costa Mesa and Broader Regions

Figure 42: Home Owners w/ A Mortgage

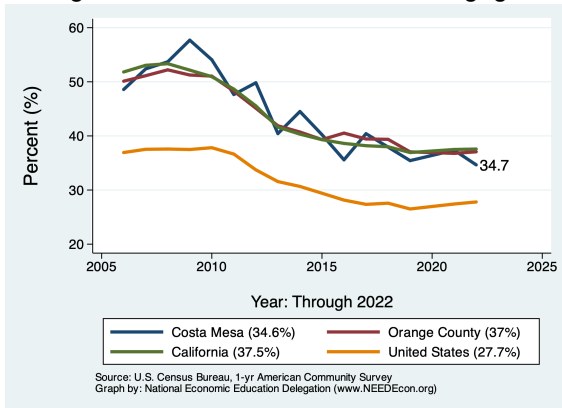


Figure 43: Home Owners w/o A Mortgage

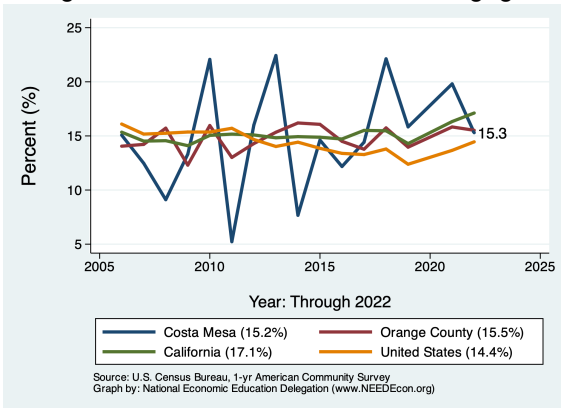


Figure 44: Renters

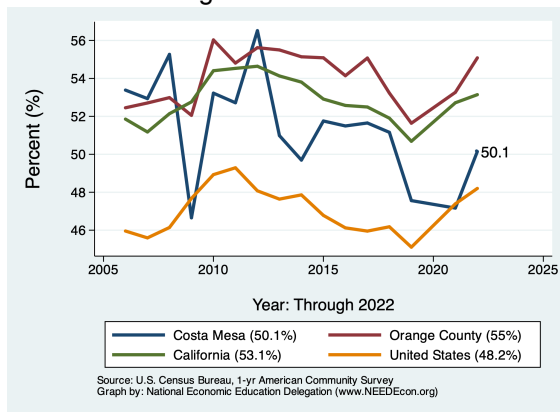
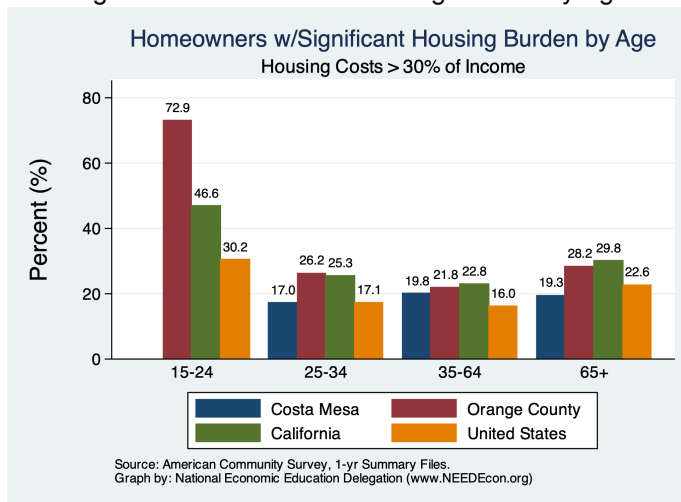


Figure 45: Homeowner Housing Burden by Age



Housing Picture

Definition:

Housing costs are measured in several different ways. First, we provide evidence on the evolution of median home prices, median rental price, and finally through evidence on the housing burden in the city and comparison regions. The median value is the amount in the middle. Fifty percent of units are above the median and 50 percent are below.

Why is it important?

In areas where the rate of population growth exceeds the rate of housing growth, this is likely to reflect a tightening housing market. A tightening housing market will also likely be reflected in lower vacancy rates and higher occupancy rates. It may also be reflected in higher numbers of people per household.

Table 5. Housing Market Indicators

Indicator	2023	2019	2010	% Change from	
				2019	2010
Total Population	111,183.0	114,634.0	109,960.0	-3.0	1.1
Total # of Homes	44,269.0	43,406.0	42,120.0	2.0	5.1
# Occupied Units	42,404.0	41,516.0	39,946.0	2.1	6.2
Persons per Household	2.6	2.7	2.7	-5.1	-4.3
Vacancy Rate (%)	4.2	4.4	5.2	-3.2	-18.4

Source: CA DOF; Calculations by the National Economic Education Delegation

Figure 46: Housing Growth

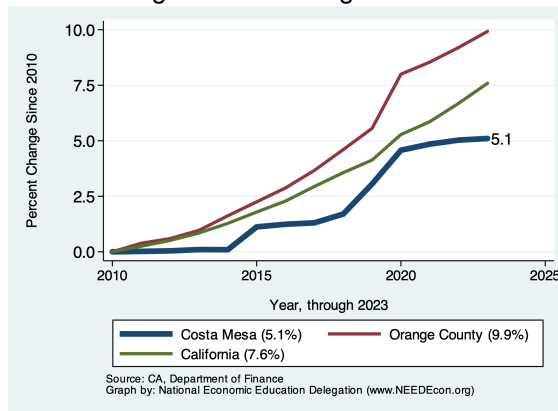


Figure 47: Persons per Household

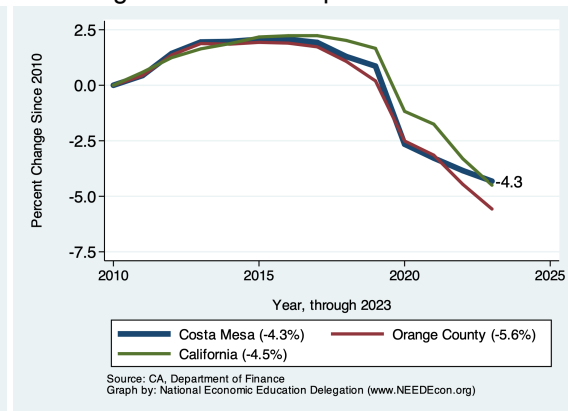


Figure 48: Vacancy Rates

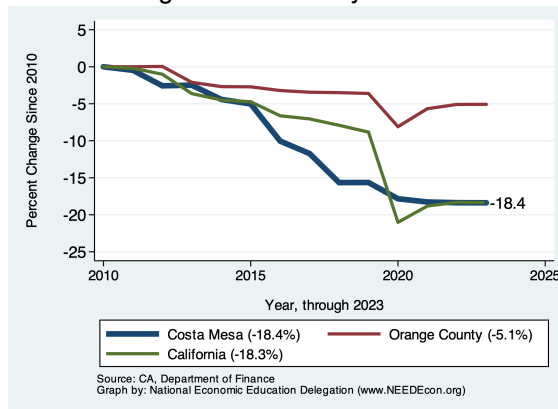
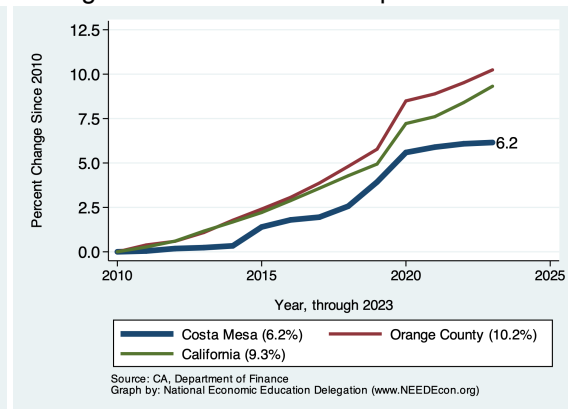


Figure 49: Number of Occupied Units



Trends in the Growth of Housing by Housing Type

Figure 50: Single Detached Homes

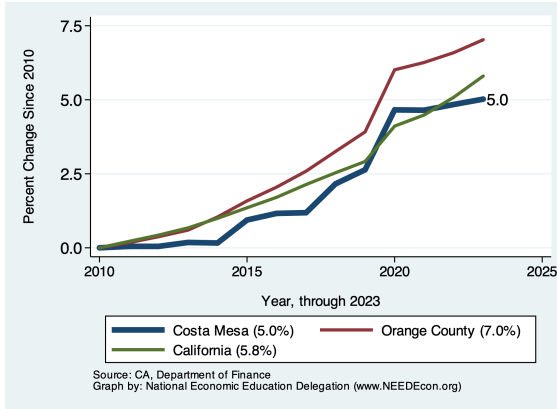


Figure 51: Single Attached Homes

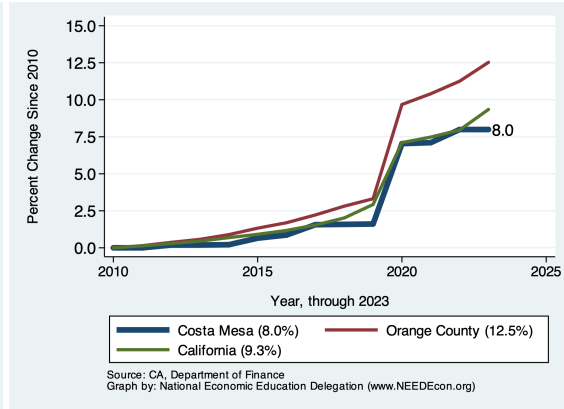


Figure 52: Housing in Buildings with Two to Four Units

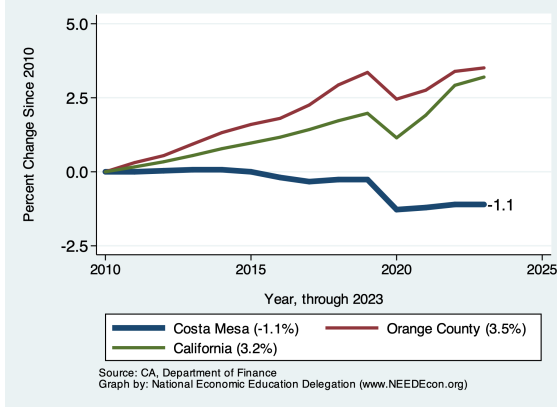
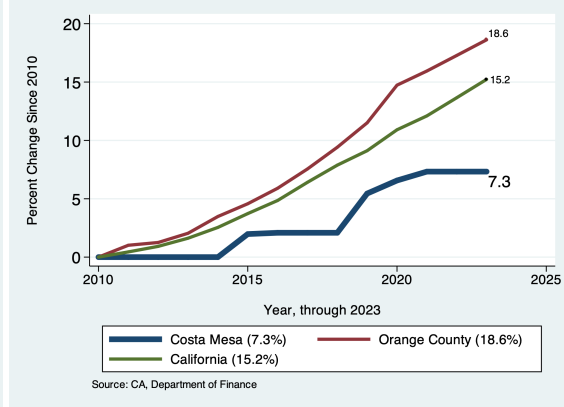


Figure 53: Housing in Buildings with Five or More Units



Vintage of Residential Housing

Why is it important?

This section provides evidence on the year in which residential housing in Costa Mesa was built. We break it down into owned versus rented residences and provide a comparison across Orange County and broader regions. A sense of the age of housing in a region provides an indication of the urgency with which a region might pursue additional hous-

ing. As the housing stock ages, an urgency with which renovations and rebuilds are permitted might result. All things equal, more recently constructed housing will be more likely to meet current codes and standards. Remodeling of existing units will be more desirable when existing units are, on average, older.

Figure 54: Distribution of Housing Construction

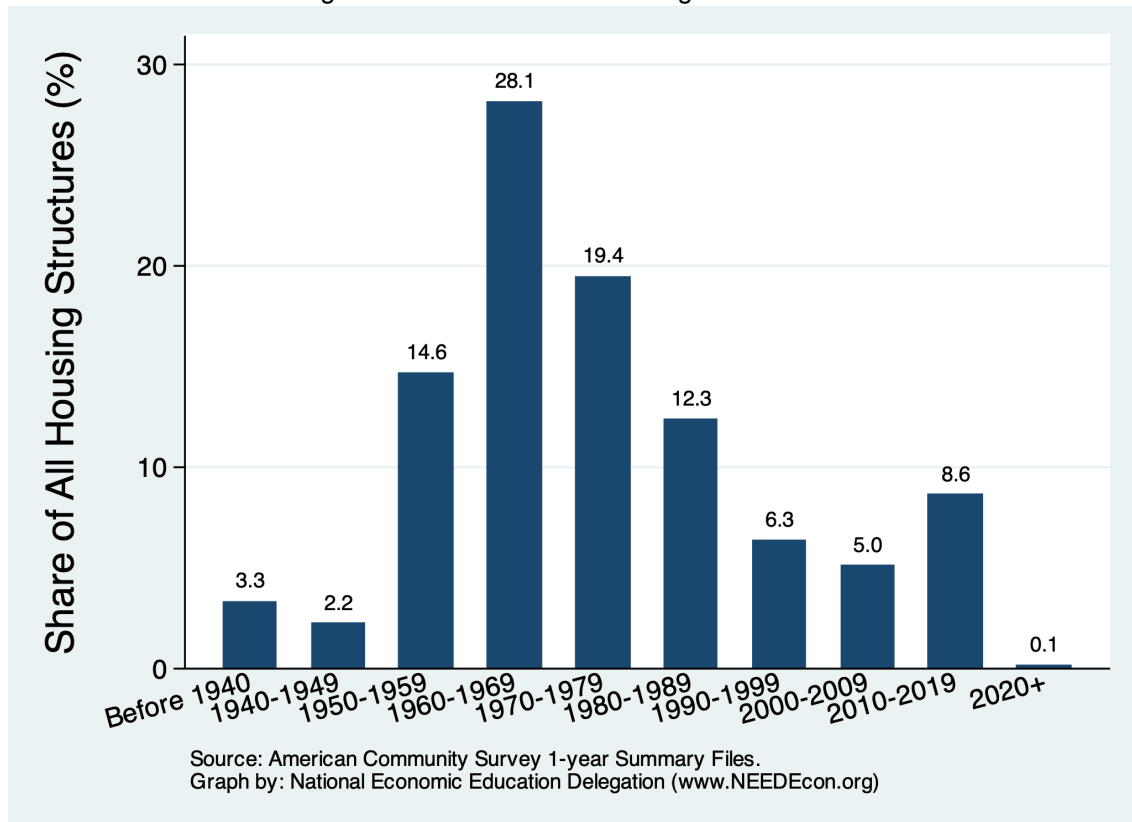


Figure 55: Housing Vintage across Regions

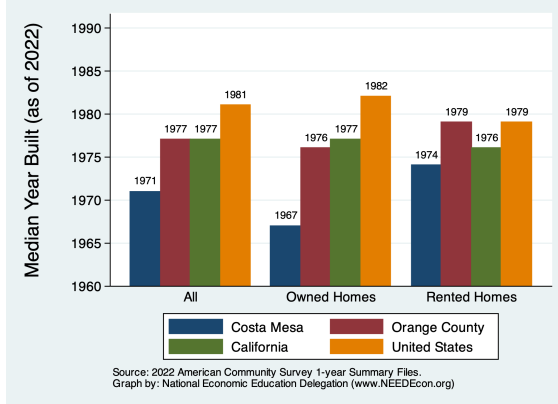


Figure 56: Housing Vintage by Tenure

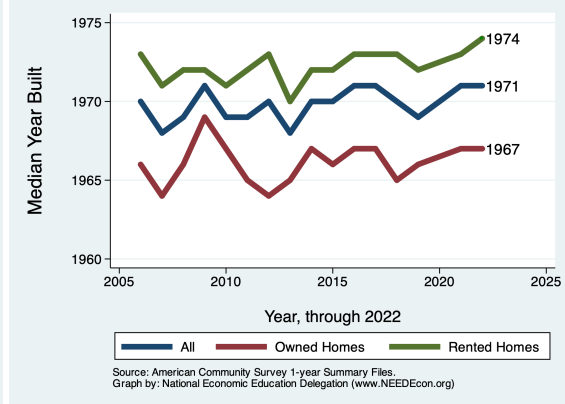


Figure 57: Vintage of Owned Residences

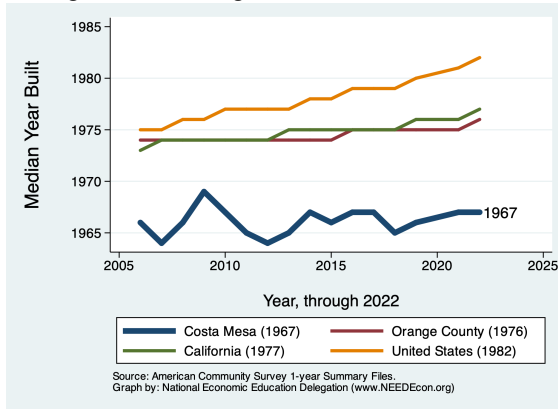


Figure 58: Vintage of Rented Residences

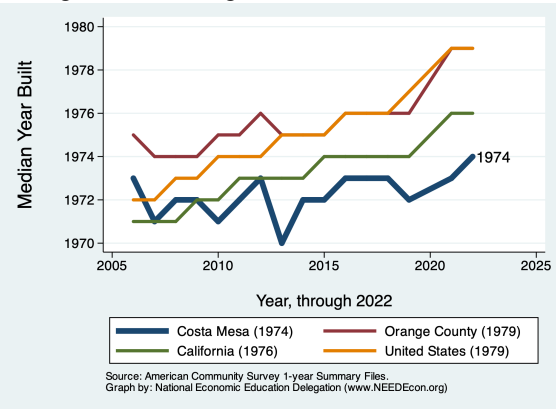
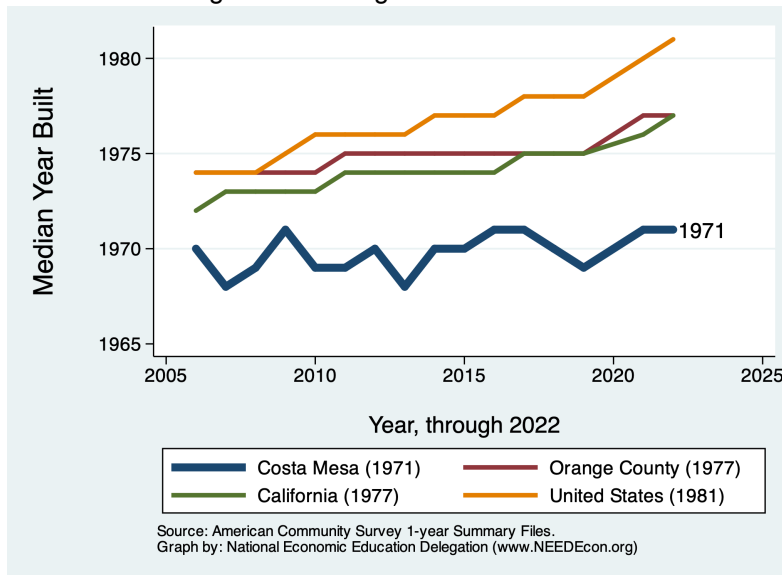


Figure 59: Vintage of All Residences



Occupation of Residential Housing

Why is it important?

The duration of residence in a city is important for developing future policies regarding growing the local population. If a region is highly mobile, evidenced by most residences having

been recently occupied, a city might propose policies to reduce that mobility, or ask why the mobility happens. Policies could be put in place to either reduce or increase migration.

Figure 60: Year Current Occupant Moved In

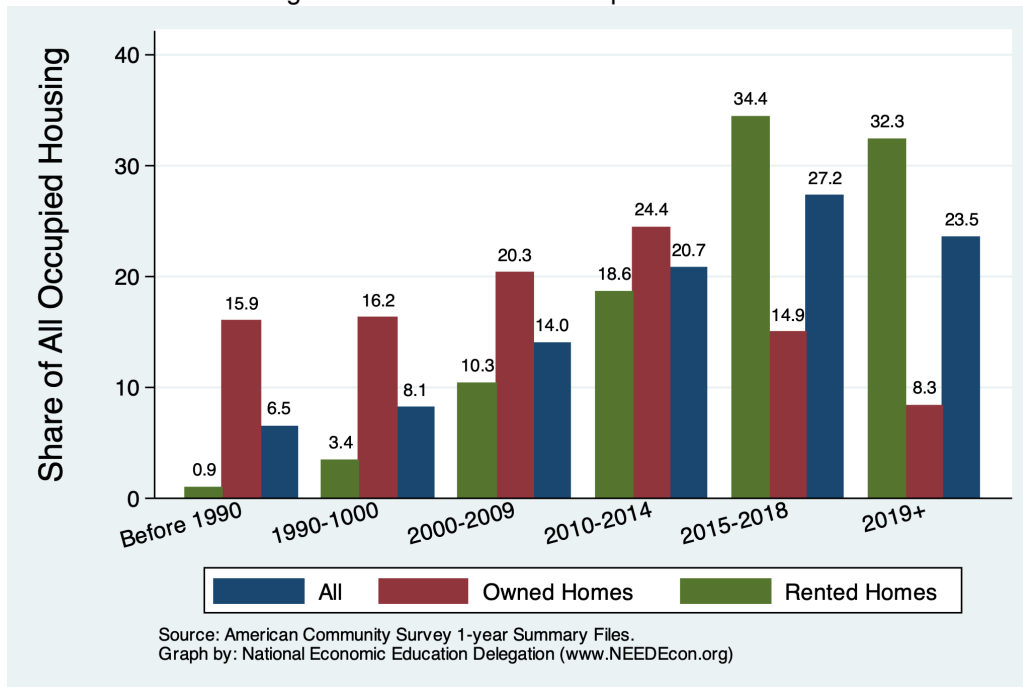


Figure 61: Year Occupied by Current Residents across Regions

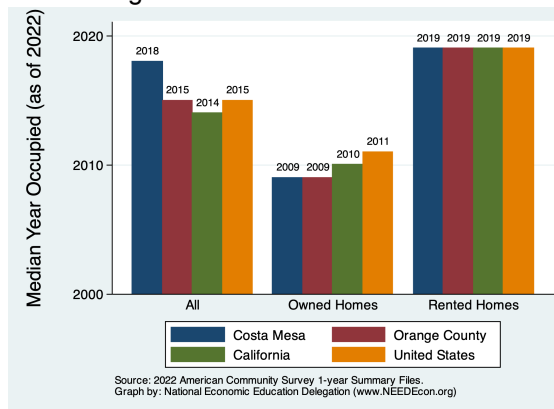


Figure 62: Year Occupied by Current Residents by Tenure

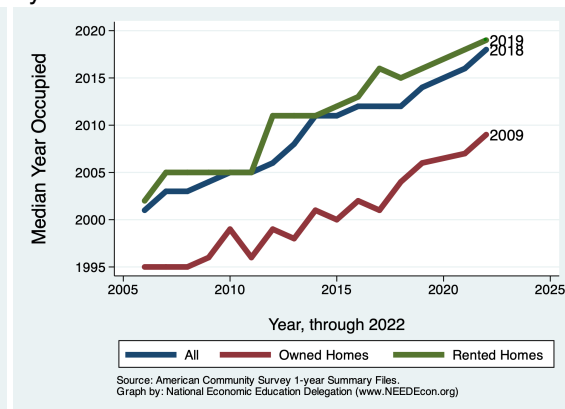


Figure 63: Year Occupied by Current Residents for Owned Housing

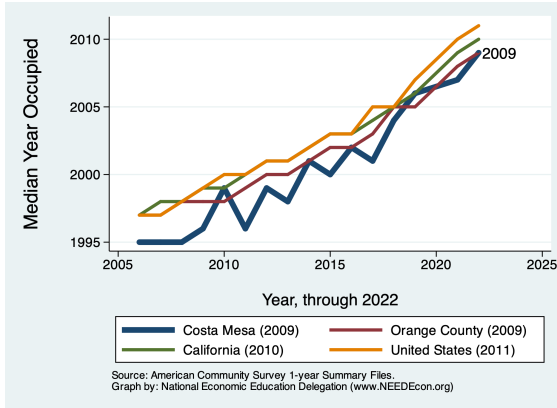


Figure 64: Year Occupied by Current Residents for Rented Housing

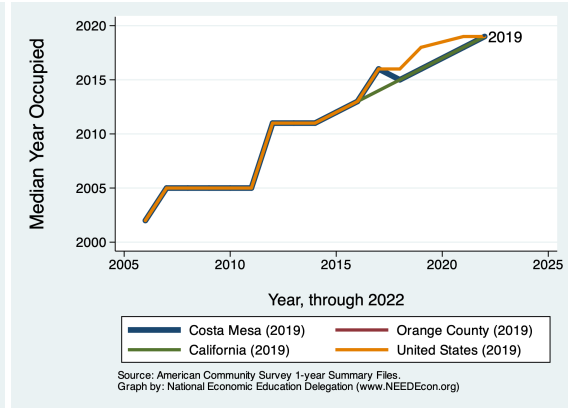
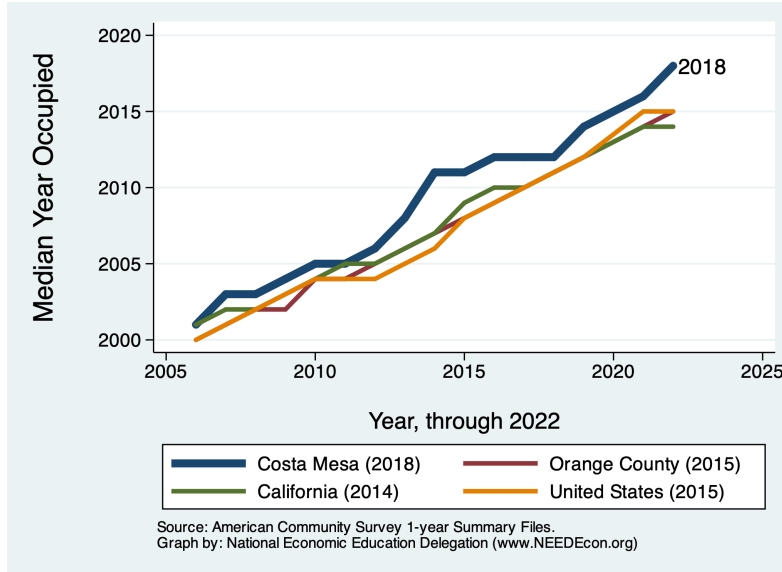


Figure 65: Year Occupied by Current Residents for All Housing



Residential Permitting

Definition:

This indicator provides evidence on the number of residential buildings that are permitted for construction each year. Permit data for Costa Mesa is compared with data from Orange County as a whole and broader regions. The statistic provided scales the number of permits by population. This is done to facilitate comparisons across regions.

Why is it important?

Building permits are the best indicator available of new units coming on the market. In order for a region's population to grow and flourish, new residential properties must be added to the existing stock. Building, both in the City and in the County more generally, is an indication of the extent to which new residences accommodate new residents or are affecting prices through increased supply.

Costa Mesa - Ranking Among Comparables

Figure 66: Number of Units Permitted - Nationwide Comparables (Rank)

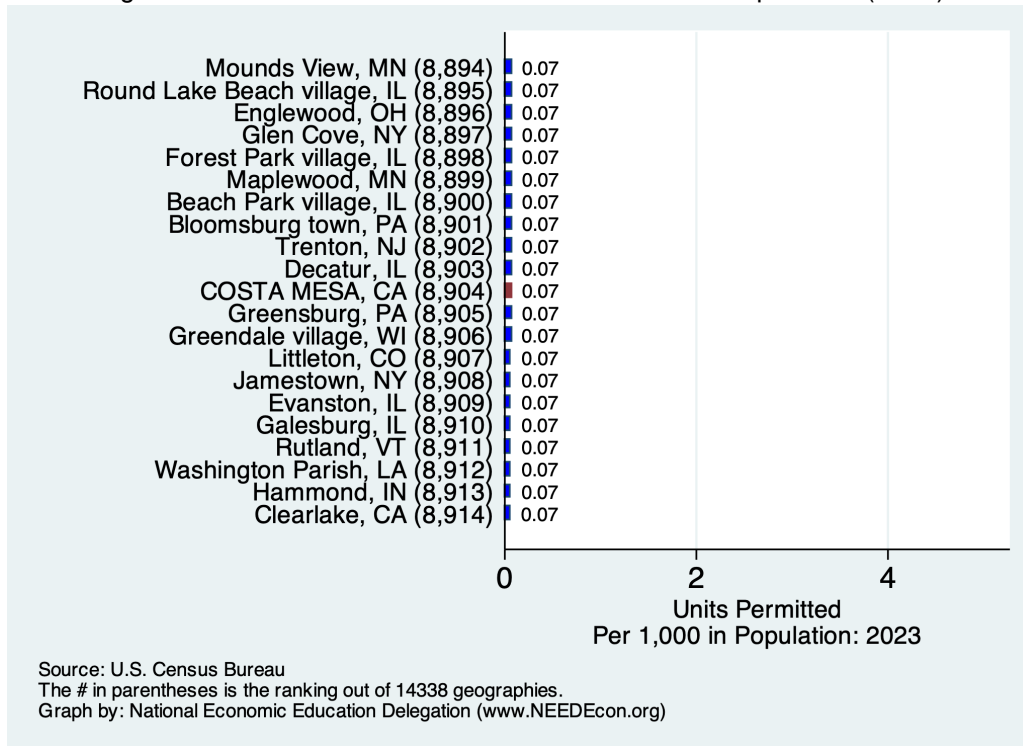
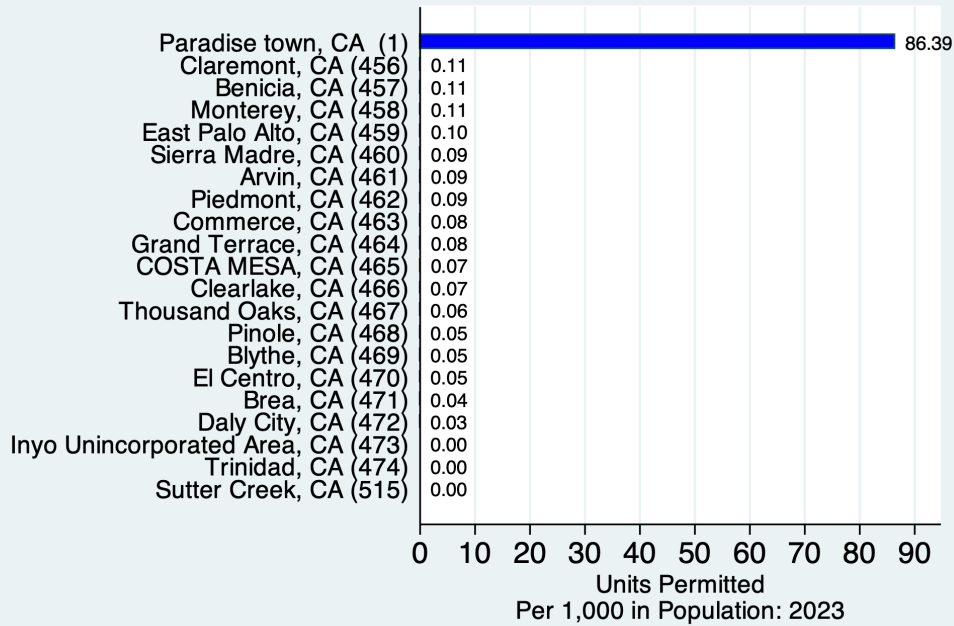
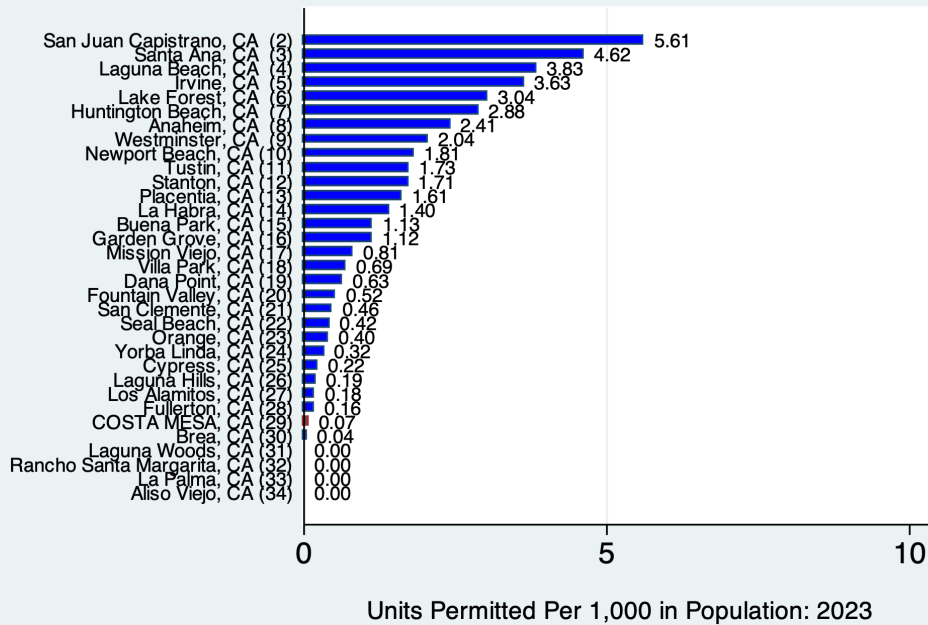


Figure 67: Number of Units Permitted - California Comparables (Rank)



Source: U.S. Census Bureau.
 The # in parentheses is the ranking out of 515 geographies.
 Graph by: National Economic Education Delegation (www.NEEDecon.org)

Figure 68: Number of Units Permitted - Cities in Orange County (Rank)



Source: U.S. Census Bureau,
 The # in parentheses is the ranking out of 34 geographies.
 Graph by: National Economic Education Delegation (www.NEEDecon.org)

Costa Mesa - Permitting Activity

Annual Units Permitted - Per Capita in Costa Mesa

Figure 69: Units Permitted Each Year

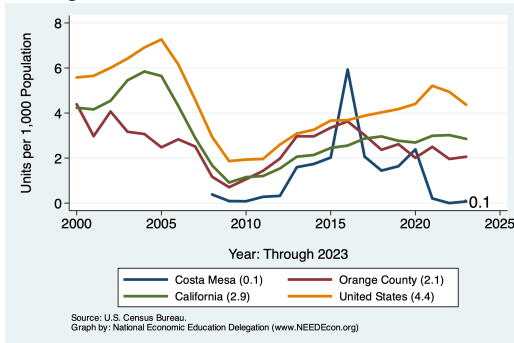
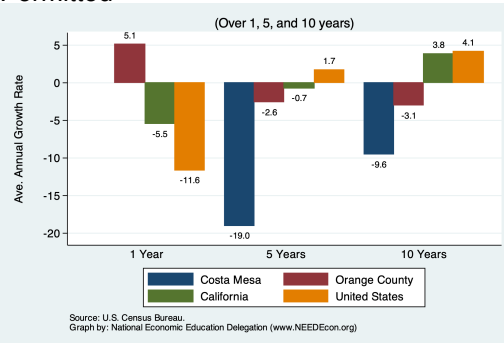


Figure 70: Average Annual Growth in Units Permitted



Annual Number of Buildings Permitted - Per Capita in Costa Mesa

Figure 71: Units Permitted Each Year

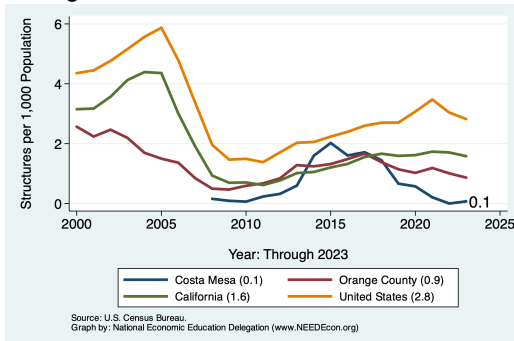
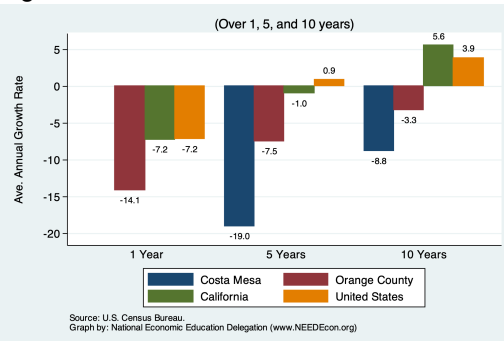


Figure 72: Average Annual Growth in Buildings Permitted



Annual Value of Property Permitted - Per Capita in Costa Mesa

Figure 73: Value Permitted Each Year

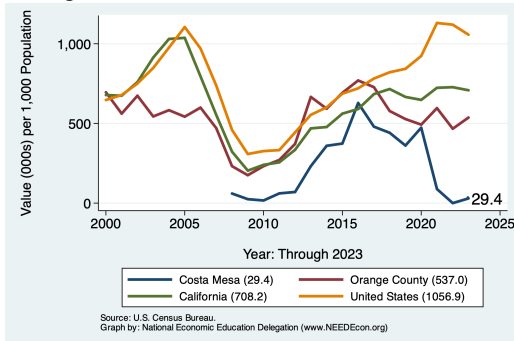
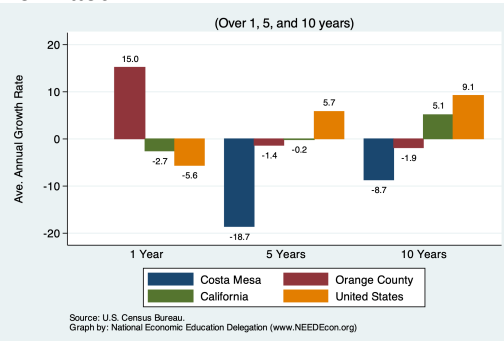


Figure 74: Average Annual Growth in Value Permitted



Commute Patterns

During the recovery from the Great Recession, the period from 2010 to 2019, the Bay Area economy, and Silicon Valley in particular, has been growing at a pace roughly double that of the state as a whole and triple that of the nation. This growth has precipitated a tight hous-

ing market and also brought about some significant changes in commute patterns, many of which have been reversed by the pandemic. Recent years have seen significant changes in both the mode of transportation and commute times.

Mode of Transportation

Figure 75: Percent of Workers Commuting by Car Alone

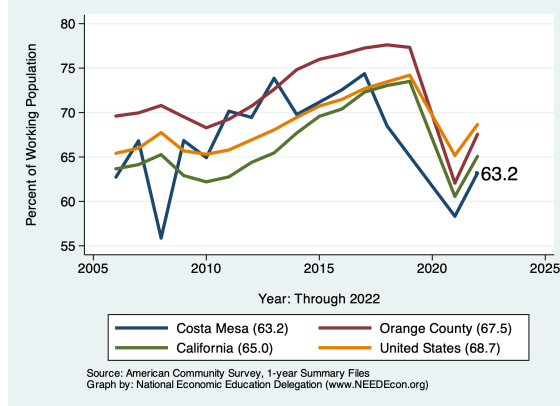


Figure 76: Percent of Workers Commuting by Carpool

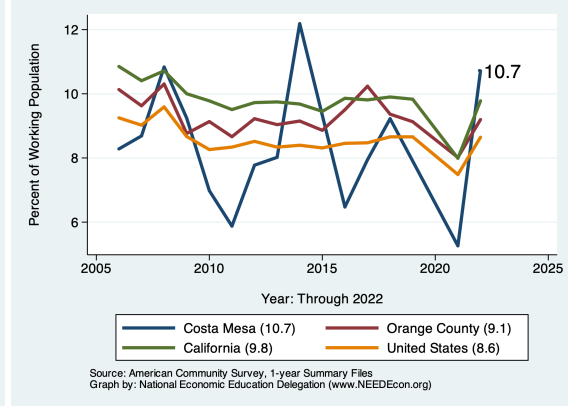


Figure 77: Percent of Workers using Public Transportation

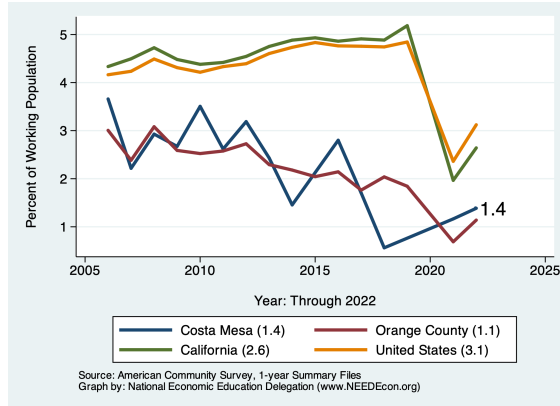
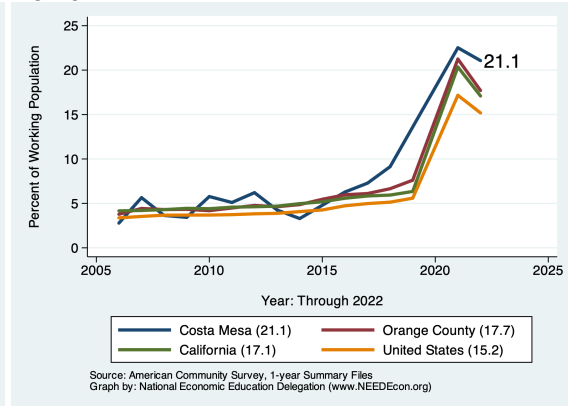


Figure 78: Percent of Workers Who Work From Home



The first table on this page presents data for those who LIVE in Costa Mesa. The second provides data on those who work, but do not necessarily live in Costa Mesa. The final two columns provide for a comparison of commute mode choices of people locally with those in California more broadly.

Table 6. SEX OF WORKERS BY MODE OF TRANSPORTATION TO WORK

Mode of Transit	Male		Female		All Workers		All of CA
	#	(%)	#	(%)	#	(%)	(%)
Car, Truck, or Van:	27,806	73.6	21,427	72.6	49,233	73.9	75.3
Drove Alone	23,643	62.6	18,453	62.5	42,096	63.2	65.5
Carpooled:	4,163	11.0	2,974	10.1	7,137	10.7	9.8
In 2-person carpool	3,009	8.0	2,510	8.5	5,519	8.3	7.0
In 3-person carpool	874	2.3	353	1.2	1,227	1.8	1.7
In 4-or-more-person carpool	280	0.7	111	0.4	391	0.6	1.2
Public Transportation (excl Taxi):	837	2.2	86	0.3	923	1.4	2.7
Bus or Trolley Bus	837	2.2	86	0.3	923	1.4	1.8
Streetcar or Trolley Car	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.5
Subway or Elevated	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.2
Railroad	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.1
Ferryboat	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.1
Bicycle	271	0.7	231	0.8	502	0.8	0.7
Walked	42	0.1	760	2.6	802	1.2	2.4
Taxicab, Motorcycle, or other	886	2.3	245	0.8	1,131	1.7	1.7
Worked at Home	7,954	21.0	6,085	20.6	14,039	21.1	17.2
Total:	37,796	100.0	28,834	97.7	66,630	100.0	

Source: 2022 1-year American Community Survey, Summary File

Table 7. SEX OF WORKERS BY MODE OF TRANSPORTATION TO WORK FOR WORKPLACE GEOGRAPHY

Mode of Transit	Male		Female		All Workers		All of CA
	#	(%)	#	(%)	#	(%)	(%)
Car, Truck, or Van:	39,730	75.9	26,806	58.8	66,536	69.3	75.3
Drove Alone	37,107	70.9	23,840	52.3	60,947	63.5	65.5
Carpooled:	2,623	5.0	2,966	6.5	5,589	5.8	9.8
In 2-person carpool	2,099	4.0	1,701	3.7	3,800	4.0	7.0
In 3-person carpool	362	0.7	637	1.4	999	1.0	1.7
In 4-or-more-person carpool	162	0.3	628	1.4	790	0.8	1.2
Public Transportation (excl Taxi):	1,110	2.1	619	1.4	1,729	1.8	2.6
Bus or Trolley Bus	1,078	2.1	619	1.4	1,697	1.8	1.8
Streetcar or Trolley Car	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.5
Subway or Elevated	32	0.1	0	0.0	32	0.0	0.2
Railroad	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.1
Ferryboat	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.1
Bicycle	670	1.3	203	0.4	873	0.9	0.7
Walked	115	0.2	1,036	2.3	1,151	1.2	2.4
Taxicab, Motorcycle, or other	1,117	2.1	606	1.3	1,723	1.8	1.7
Worked at Home	7,954	15.2	6,085	13.3	14,039	14.6	17.2
Total:	50,696	96.9	35,355	77.5	86,051	89.6	

Source: 2022 1-year American Community Survey, Summary File

The results in this table are for those who work in the region, regardless of the location of their residence.

Commute Times for Employed Residents

Table 8. SEX OF WORKERS BY TRAVEL TIME TO WORK

Mode of Transit	Male		Female		All Workers		All of CA
	#	(%)	#	(%)	#	(%)	(%)
Less than 5 minutes	113	0.3	834	3.0	947	1.6	2.1
5 to 9 minutes	1,868	5.4	2,369	8.6	4,237	7.1	7.8
10 to 14 minutes	6,091	17.7	5,272	19.2	11,363	19.1	12.4
15 to 19 minutes	6,461	18.8	4,565	16.6	11,026	18.6	15.4
20 to 24 minutes	5,768	16.8	4,586	16.7	10,354	17.4	14.8
25 to 29 minutes	1,801	5.2	600	2.2	2,401	4.0	6.4
30 to 34 minutes	4,582	13.3	2,231	8.1	6,813	11.5	15.2
35 to 39 minutes	332	1.0	457	1.7	789	1.3	2.9
40 to 44 minutes	607	1.8	188	0.7	795	1.3	4.1
45 to 59 minutes	883	2.6	880	3.2	1,763	3.0	8.2
60 to 89 minutes	1,336	3.9	558	2.0	1,894	3.2	7.2
90 or more minutes	0	0.0	209	0.8	209	0.4	3.6
Total:	29,842	86.8	22,749	82.6	52,591	88.5	

Source: 2022 1-year American Community Survey, Summary File

Figure 79: Percent of Employed Population With Commutes of More than 30 Minutes

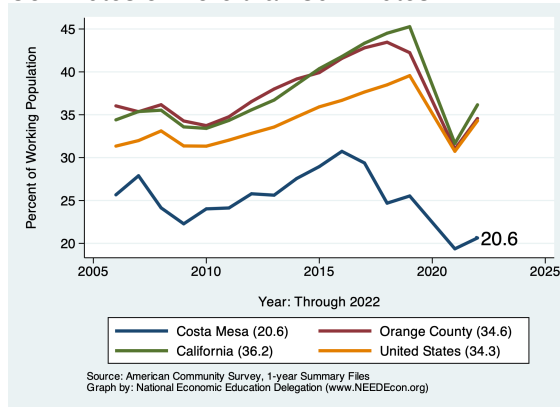


Figure 80: Percent of Employed Population With Commutes of More than 90 Minutes

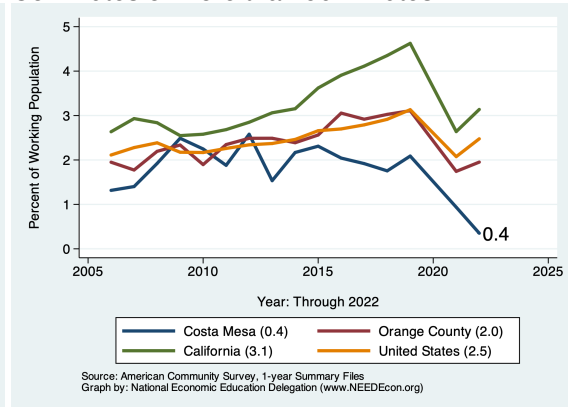
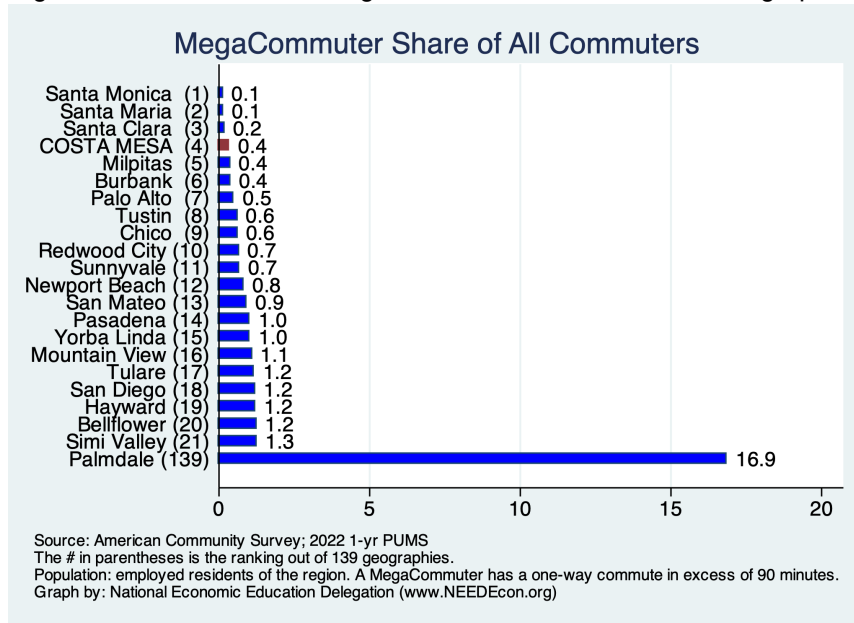


Figure 81: Rank: Share of MegaCommuters Across Similar Geographies



Commute Times for Those Employed in the City

Table 9. SEX OF WORKERS BY TRAVEL TIME TO WORK FOR WORKPLACE GEOGRAPHY

Mode of Transit	Male		Female		All Workers		All of CA (%)
	#	(%)	#	(%)	#	(%)	
Less than 5 minutes	217	0.4	576	1.4	793	0.9	2.1
5 to 9 minutes	2,817	5.7	2,679	6.3	5,496	6.1	7.8
10 to 14 minutes	5,932	12.1	4,280	10.1	10,212	11.4	12.4
15 to 19 minutes	6,595	13.5	5,200	12.3	11,795	13.1	15.3
20 to 24 minutes	6,874	14.0	3,371	7.9	10,245	11.4	14.8
25 to 29 minutes	3,298	6.7	2,019	4.8	5,317	5.9	6.4
30 to 34 minutes	5,870	12.0	5,012	11.8	10,882	12.1	15.2
35 to 39 minutes	1,612	3.3	483	1.1	2,095	2.3	2.9
40 to 44 minutes	1,612	3.3	757	1.8	2,369	2.6	4.1
45 to 59 minutes	2,804	5.7	2,654	6.3	5,458	6.1	8.2
60 to 89 minutes	2,844	5.8	1,806	4.3	4,650	5.2	7.2
90 or more minutes	2,267	4.6	433	1.0	2,700	3.0	3.6
Total:	42,742	87.2	29,270	69.0	72,012	80.1	

Source: 2022 1-year American Community Survey, Summary File

The results in this table are for those who work in the region, regardless of the location of their residence.

Figure 82: Percent of Local Employees With Commutes of More than 30 Minutes

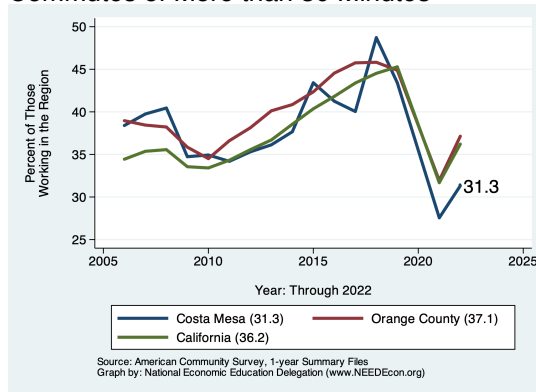


Figure 83: Percent of Local Employees With Commutes of More than 90 Minutes

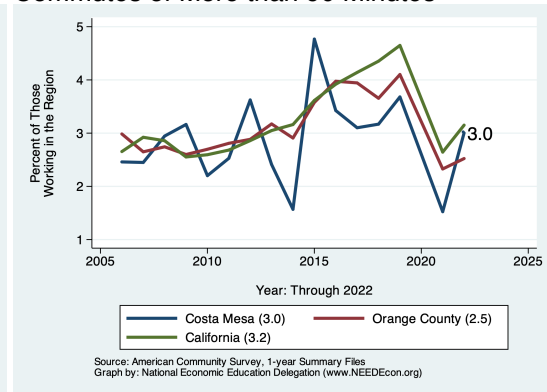
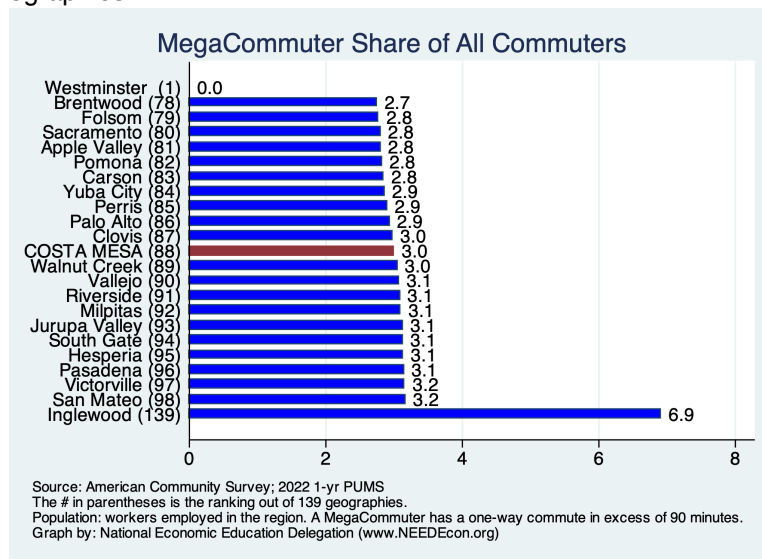


Figure 84: Rank: Share of MegaCommuters Across Similar Geographies



Source: American Community Survey; 2022 1-yr PUMS

The # in parentheses is the ranking out of 139 geographies.

Population: workers employed in the region. A MegaCommuter has a one-way commute in excess of 90 minutes.

Graph by: National Economic Education Delegation (www.NEEDEcon.org)

Place of Work

This section provides evidence on where workers living in Costa Mesa work. As evidenced in the first table, some of Costa Mesa’s employed workers work in the City, but many do not. The first table and graph pair provide evidence at the county level while the second provide evidence with regard to working outside of the Costa Mesa city boundary.

Table 10. SEX OF WORKERS BY PLACE OF WORK—STATE AND COUNTY LEVEL

Place of Work	Male		Female		All Workers		All of CA (%)
	#	(%)	#	(%)	#	(%)	
Worked in state of residence:	37,417	99.0	28,747	97.4	66,164	99.3	99.6
Worked in county of residence	34,655	91.7	27,245	92.3	61,900	92.9	85.3
worked outside of county of residence	2,762	7.3	1,502	5.1	4,264	6.4	14.3
Worked outside state of residence	379	1.0	87	0.3	466	0.7	0.4
Total:	37,796	100.0	28,834	97.7	66,630	100.0	

Source: 2022 1-year American Community Survey, Summary File

Figure 85: Percent of Workers Employed Outside of Their County of Residence

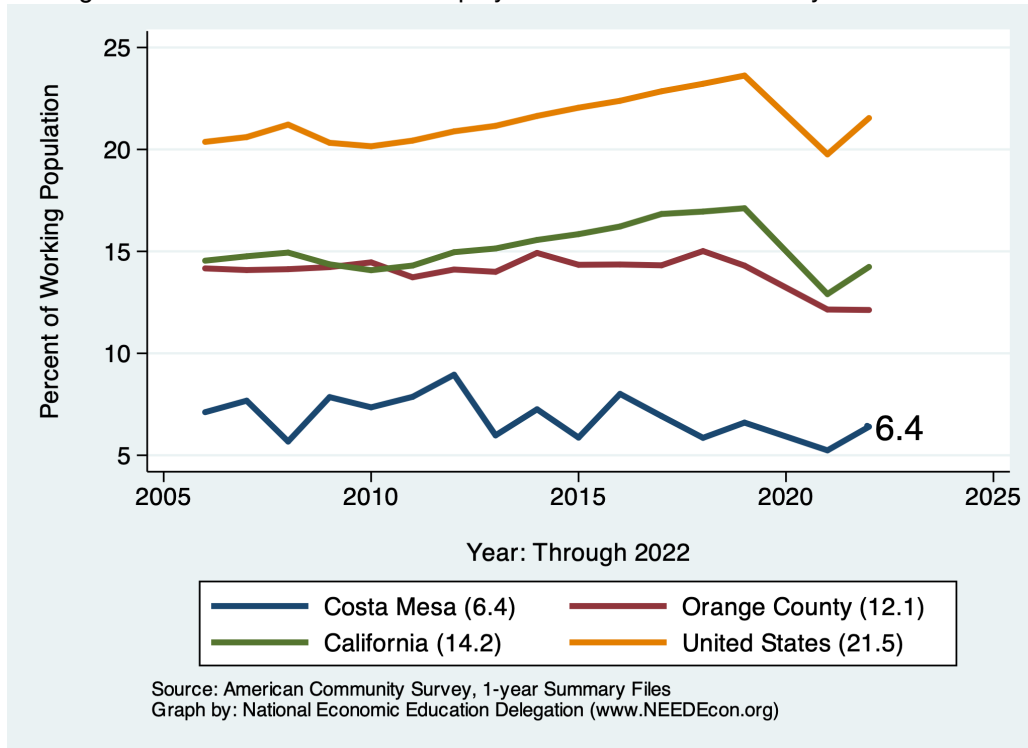
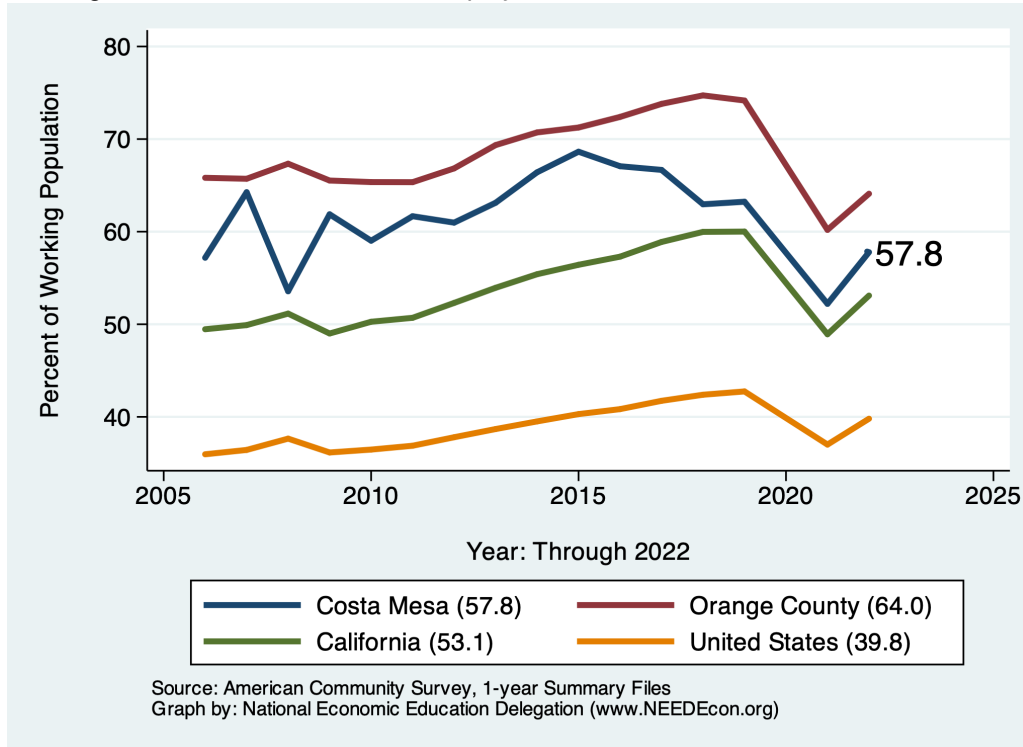


Table 11. SEX OF WORKERS BY PLACE OF WORK-PLACE LEVEL

Place of Work	Male		Female		All Workers #	All Workers (%)	All of CA (%)
	#	(%)	#	(%)			
Living in a place:	37,796	100.0	28,834	97.7	66,630	100.0	95.8
Worked in place of residence	16,105	42.6	12,022	40.7	28,127	42.2	42.3
Worked outside place of residence	21,691	57.4	16,812	57.0	38,503	57.8	53.4
Not living in a place	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	4.2
Total:	37,796	100.0	28,834	97.7	66,630	100.0	

Source: 2022 1-year American Community Survey, Summary File

Figure 86: Percent of Workers Employed Outside of Their Place of Residence



Commute Mode by Income

**Table 12. MEDIAN EARNINGS IN THE PAST 12 MONTHS
BY MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION TO WORK**

	City			United States	
	Median	California Median	Ratio	Median	Ratio
Car, truck, or van - drove alone	51,059	48,335	102.8	45,677	101.3
Car, truck, or van - carpooled	37,832	35,926	102.5	34,518	99.3
Public transportation (excluding taxicab)	20,787	34,625	58.4	41,443	45.4
Walked	50,251	30,552	160.1	27,247	167.1
Taxicab, motorcycle, bicycle, or other means	52,910	40,631	126.7	36,218	132.3
Worked from home	78,606	79,738	95.9	69,180	102.9
Total:	51,185	49,818	102.7	46,365	110.4

Source: 2022 1-year American Community Survey, Summary File

Notes: 1) Ratio = the ratio of the regional median to either the CA or US median, relative to the Total ratio.

Values above 100 imply a high local median. Values below 100 imply a low local median.

For example, a value of 200 means that the local mean is 2x higher than would be expected.

For "Total:", ratio is simply the ratio of the medians.

2) For regions with more than one geography, the medians are averages weighted by working population.

Table 13. MODE OF TRANSPORTATION TO WORK BY WORKERS' EARNINGS

Mode of Transit	< \$25,000		\$25,000-\$74,999		\$75,000+		All		All of CA
	#	(%)	#	(%)	#	(%)	#	(%)	(%)
Car, Truck, or Van: Drove Alone	9,149	37.6	12,416	58.5	15,717	63.4	42,483	63.8	68.4
Car, Truck, or Van: Carpooled	1,780	7.3	1,405	6.6	1,221	4.9	5,256	7.9	9.5
Public Transportation (excl Taxi)	640	2.6	149	0.7	155	0.6	1,066	1.6	3.6
Walked	669	2.7	315	1.5	331	1.3	1,601	2.4	2.4
Taxicab, Motorcycle, or other	624	2.6	621	2.9	542	2.2	1,993	3.0	2.4
Worked at Home	1,823	7.5	2,793	13.2	5,158	20.8	10,633	16.0	13.6
Total:	14,685	60.4	17,699	83.4	23,124	93.3	63,032	94.6	100.0

Source: 2022 5-year American Community Survey, Summary File

**Table 14. MODE OF TRANSPORTATION TO WORK BY WORKERS' EARNINGS FOR
WORKPLACE GEOGRAPHY**

Mode of Transit	< \$25,000		\$25,000-\$74,999		\$75,000+		All		All of CA
	#	(%)	#	(%)	#	(%)	#	(%)	(%)
Car, Truck, or Van: Drove Alone	14,978	44.9	19,914	70.6	21,137	69.8	63,992	66.7	68.5
Car, Truck, or Van: Carpooled	2,212	6.6	2,188	7.8	1,318	4.4	6,852	7.1	9.5
Public Transportation (excl Taxi)	722	2.2	210	0.7	209	0.7	1,461	1.5	3.6
Walked	718	2.2	299	1.1	343	1.1	1,664	1.7	2.4
Taxicab, Motorcycle, or other	667	2.0	491	1.7	408	1.3	1,827	1.9	2.4
Worked at Home	1,823	5.5	2,793	9.9	5,158	17.0	10,633	11.1	13.6
Total:	21,120	63.4	25,895	91.7	28,573	94.4	86,429	90.0	

Source: 2022 5-year American Community Survey, Summary File

The results in this table are for those who work in the region, regardless of the location of their residence.

Commute Mode by Poverty Status

Table 15. MODE OF TRANSPORTATION TO WORK BY POVERTY STATUS

Mode of Transit	In Poverty		100-149% of Pov		>150% of Pov		All		All of CA (%)
	#	(%)	#	(%)	#	(%)	#	(%)	
Car, Truck, or Van: Drove Alone	1,139	20.3	1,742	30.7	39,215	65.5	42,096	63.2	65.8
Car, Truck, or Van: Carpooled	783	14.0	866	15.2	5,488	9.2	7,137	10.7	9.8
Public Transportation (excl Taxi)	376	6.7	13	0.2	510	0.9	899	1.4	2.6
Walked	0	0.0	0	0.0	802	1.3	802	1.2	2.1
Taxicab, Motorcycle, or other	268	4.8	0	0.0	1,335	2.2	1,603	2.4	2.4
Worked at Home	492	8.8	996	17.5	12,551	21.0	14,039	21.1	17.2
Total:	3,058	54.6	3,617	63.7	59,901		66,576		

Source: 2022 1-year American Community Survey, Summary File

Table 16. MODE OF TRANSPORTATION TO WORK BY POVERTY STATUS FOR WORKPLACE GEOGRAPHY

Mode of Transit	In Poverty		100-149% of Pov		>150% of Pov		All		All of CA (%)
	#	(%)	#	(%)	#	(%)	#	(%)	
Car, Truck, or Van: Drove Alone	1,568	23.2	3,577	49.7	55,802	64.9	60,947	63.6	65.8
Car, Truck, or Van: Carpooled	519	7.7	375	5.2	4,695	5.5	5,589	5.8	9.8
Public Transportation (excl Taxi)	443	6.6	103	1.4	1,159	1.3	1,705	1.8	2.6
Walked	0	0.0	0	0.0	1,013	1.2	1,013	1.1	2.1
Taxicab, Motorcycle, or other	300	4.4	260	3.6	2,036	2.4	2,596	2.7	2.4
Worked at Home	492	7.3	996	13.8	12,551	14.6	14,039	14.6	17.2
Total:	3,322	49.3	5,311	73.8	77,256	89.9	85,889	89.6	100.0

Source: 2022 1-year American Community Survey, Summary File

The results in this table are for those who work in the region, regardless of the location of their residence.

Migration

Overall Migration Flows

Definition:

The United States is a country with an increasingly mobile population. People move, migrate, from one place to another with increasing frequency.

Why is it important?

Having a handle on whether or not Costa Mesa is a net recipient (migration inflows) or donor (migration outflows) of population is very im-

portant for understanding trends in the City's development. This section outlines migration patterns by age, education, income, marital status, and housing tenure. Understanding recent trends is very important for making policy, investment, and other decisions about the future. Also, understanding the extent to which the population is stable, or experiences significant turnover each year is helpful for planning purposes.

Figure 87: Overall Movements of Residents

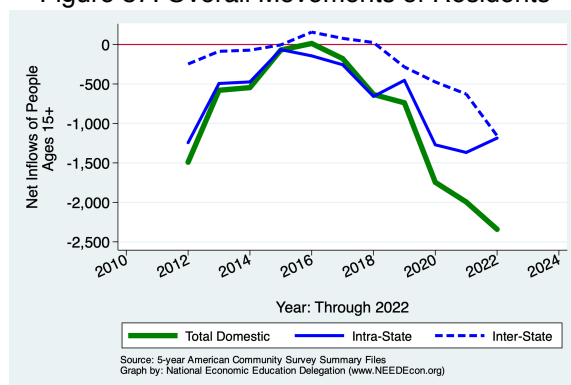


Table 17: Migration by Income

Category	Population	Net Inflows				
		All Migration	Same State		Across States	From Abroad
			W/in County	Between Counties		
No income	10,329	-701	-275	207	-684	51
With income	86,383	647	1,728	1,001	-2,358	276
\$1 to \$9,999 or less	8,608	182	332	-103	-76	29
\$10,000 to \$14,999	6,370	692	1,085	-335	-58	0
\$15,000 to \$24,999	10,891	53	302	95	-355	11
\$25,000 to \$34,999	8,413	-63	-57	538	-544	0
\$35,000 to \$49,999	10,822	-209	-32	169	-346	0
\$50,000 to \$64,999	7,508	-261	-389	209	-81	0
\$65,000 to \$74,999	4,995	39	0	17	-36	58
\$75,000 or more	28,776	214	487	411	-862	178
All:	96,712	-54	1,453	1,208	-3,042	327

Source: 2022 1-year American Community Survey, Summary File

Note: The data in this and other tables in this section are limited in that there is no information on the City's population that has moved abroad.

The "From Abroad" column is gross movements into the City from abroad.

Figure 88: Overall Movements of Low Income Residents

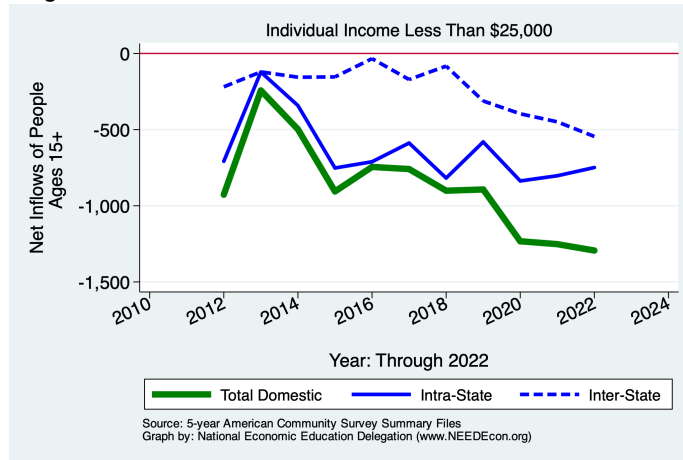


Figure 89: Overall Movements of Middle Income Residents

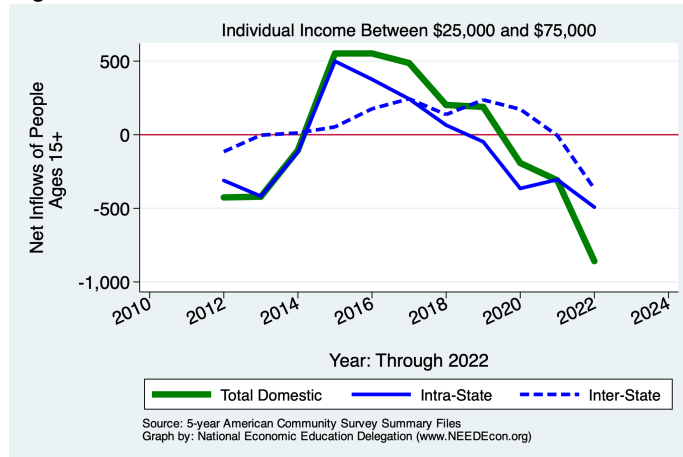
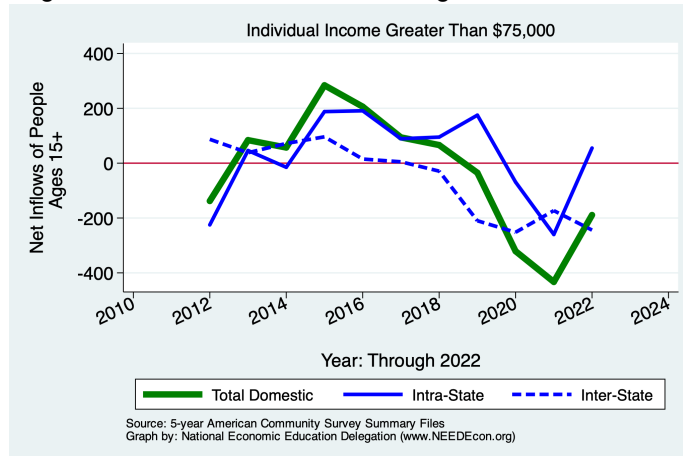


Figure 90: Overall Movements of High Income Residents



Demographics of Migration Flows

Table 18: Migration by Marital Status

Category	Population	Net Inflows				
		All Migration	Same State		Across States	From Abroad
			W/in County	Between Counties		
Never married	45,930	1,532	2,505	246	-1,303	84
Now married, except separated	35,614	-2,259	-1,359	521	-1,541	120
Divorced	9,586	660	294	303	-60	123
Separated	1,556	64	-7	71	0	0
Widowed	4,026	-51	20	67	-138	0
Total:	96,712	-54	1,453	1,208	-3,042	327

Source: 2022 1-year American Community Survey, Summary File

Table 19: Migration by Tenure

Category	Population	Net Inflows				
		All Migration	Same State		Across States	From Abroad
			W/in County	Between Counties		
Householder lived in owner-occupied housing units	40,909	-4,523	-1,736	-109	-2,893	215
Householder lived in renter-occupied housing units	65,774	3,491	2,777	1,463	-821	72
Total:	106,683	-1,032	1,041	1,354	-3,714	287

Source: 2022 1-year American Community Survey, Summary File

Figure 91: Domestic Movements of Residents by Tenure

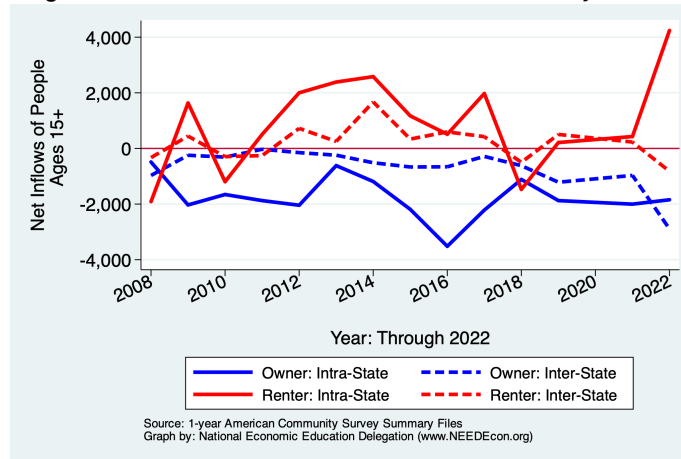


Table 20: Migration by Age

Category	Population	Net Inflows					From Abroad
		All Migration	Same State		Across States		
			W/in County	Between Counties			
1 to 4 years	4,741	-413	-17	-283	-154	41	
5 to 17 years	15,222	-708	-434	-250	-59	35	
18 and 19 years	3,059	145	188	-33	-39	29	
20 to 24 years	7,029	-123	413	-366	-292	122	
25 to 29 years	11,853	504	84	209	9	202	
30 to 34 years	9,765	-506	-624	252	-271	137	
35 to 39 years	8,557	-464	-176	-145	-152	9	
40 to 44 years	8,371	-185	-254	-63	30	102	
45 to 49 years	6,679	-192	-280	48	32	8	
50 to 54 years	7,586	-42	-39	-15	-72	84	
55 to 59 years	7,225	-56	-135	46	-136	169	
60 to 64 years	5,815	-290	-227	12	-101	26	
65 to 69 years	4,901	-146	-70	49	-125	0	
70 to 74 years	3,836	33	69	-21	-23	8	
75 years and over	5,711	8	-104	118	-13	7	
Total Population:	110,350	-2,435	-1,606	-442	-1,366	979	

Source: 2022 5-year American Community Survey, Summary File

Table 21: Migration by Educational Attainment

Category	Population	Net Inflows					From Abroad
		All Migration	Same State		Across States		
			W/in County	Between Counties			
Less than high school graduate	9,341	-133	-298	227	-134	72	
High school graduate (includes equiv)	12,860	54	343	207	-587	91	
Some college or assoc. degree	22,394	-888	-194	-29	-665	0	
Bachelor's degree	26,995	-832	-957	730	-605	0	
Graduate or professional degree	10,774	79	-89	303	-299	164	
Total:	82,364	-1,720	-1,195	1,438	-2,290	327	

Source: 2022 1-year American Community Survey, Summary File

Table 22: Median Income of Migration Flows

Flow	In-Migration	Out-Migration
Same House 1 Year Ago	48,823	48,823
Moved Within Same County	36,262	42,468
Moved to Different County, Same State	38,386	16,318
Moved Between States	20,607	34,911
Moved from Abroad	119,461	
Total Population:	47,028	47,531

Source: 2022 1-year American Community Survey, Summary File

Table 23: Median Age of Migration Flows

Flow	In-Migration	Out-Migration
Same House 1 Year Ago	37.9	37.9
Moved Within Same County	27.4	32.8
Moved to Different County, Same State	33.4	29.4
Moved Between States	26.5	29.9
Moved from Abroad	60.0	
Total Population:	36.7	36.7

Source: 2022 1-year American Community Survey, Summary File

References and Sources

The majority of the data presented in this report are from the American Community Survey (ACS). For larger geographies, the 1-year Summary Files provide the data. For smaller communities, roughly those with less than 65,000 in population in 2021, the 5-year Summary Files provide the data.

The ACS data are supplemented by building permit data from the U.S. Census Bureau, population and housing data from the California Department of Finance, and home price and rental rates from Zillow.

U.S. Census Bureau. American Community Survey 1-year and 5-year Summary Files. <https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/data/data-via-ftp.html>. The 1-year data are released in September each year and the 5-year data are released in January.

Zillow Research Data <https://www.zillow.com/research/data/>

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