

# **El Cerrito, California**

## *Indicators Report*

by  
The National Economic Education Delegation (NEED)

April 20, 2024

Exploring the economics, demographics, and well-being of El Cerrito and its residents through indicators.

This report was produced by the:

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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 El Cerrito (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 El Cerrito. These indicators are compared to Contra Costa 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 El Cerrito 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 El Cerrito 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 El Cerrito, 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 El Cerrito, but do not necessarily live in El Cerrito.
- **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.

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# 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 El Cerrito's population are fundamental indicators of the city's growth potential.

***A Demographic Snapshot***

Statistic	2022	2019
<b>POPULATION</b>		
Population Estimate (#, 5yr)	25,869.0	25,398.0
Veterans (#, 5yr)	488.0	873.0
Foreign born persons (% , 5yr)	33.1	31.3
Population age 25+ (#, 5yr)	19,708.0	19,476.0
<b>AGE AND SEX</b>		
Persons under 5 years (% , 5yr)	5.1	6.0
Persons under 18 years (% , 5yr)	17.2	17.7
Persons 65 years and over (% , 5yr)	19.9	19.8
Female persons (% , 5yr)	51.8	52.8
<b>INCOME AND POVERTY</b>		
Median household income (\$, 5yr)	120,414.0	108,298.0
Per capita income in past 12 months (\$, 5yr)	67,881.0	56,379.0
Persons in poverty (% , 5yr)	8.1	8.5
Children age less than 18 in poverty (#, 5yr)	207.0	266.0
Children age less than 18 in poverty (% , 5yr)	4.7	6.0
<b>RACE AND ETHNICITY</b>		
White alone (% , 5yr)	48.4	53.6
African American alone (% , 5yr)	5.1	5.0
American Indian or Alaska Native alone (% , 5yr)	1.2	0.9
Asian alone (% , 5yr)	29.8	30.3
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone (% , 5yr)	0.6	0.6
Two or More Races (% , 5yr)	11.0	7.0
Hispanic or Latino (% , 5yr)	12.8	10.2
White alone, not Hispanic or Latino (% , 5yr)	45.2	47.5
<b>HOUSING</b>		
Housing units (#, 5yr)	11,214.0	10,721.0
Owner-occupied housing units (% , 5yr)	56.7	59.5
Median value of owner-occupied housing units (\$, 5yr)	1,050,700.0	804,700.0
Median selected monthly owner costs-with a mortgage (\$, 5yr)	3,721.0	3,029.0
Median selected monthly owner costs-without a mortgage (\$, 5yr)	878.0	713.0
Median gross rent (\$, 5yr)	2,344.0	1,956.0
<b>FAMILIES AND LIVING ARRANGEMENTS</b>		
Households (#, 5yr)	10,637.0	10,034.0
Persons per household (#, 5yr)	2.4	2.5
Living in same house 1 year ago, % of persons age 1+ (5yr)	83.7	85.2
<b>EDUCATION</b>		
High school graduate or higher, % of persons age 25+ (5yr)	95.2	94.4
Bachelor's degree or higher, % of persons age 25+ (5yr)	65.6	63.7
<b>HEALTH</b>		
With a disability, under age 65 years (#, 5yr)	1,108.0	1,185.0
Persons without health insurance, under age 65 years (% , 5yr)	3.1	4.3
<b>LABOR FORCE</b>		
In civilian labor force, persons age 16+ (% , 5yr)	67.0	64.5
In civilian labor force, women age 16+ (% , 5yr)	64.2	58.8
Employed, persons age 16+ (% , 5yr)	60.9	59.6
Self employed (% , 5yr)	11.5	15.0
<b>TRANSPORTATION</b>		
Mean travel time to work, workers age 16+ (Mins., 5yr)	24.8	30.4
Drive alone in private vehicle (% , 5yr)	45.1	51.1
Using public transportation (% , 5yr)	26.1	38.4
Worked from home (% , 5yr)	24.0	10.4

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
<b>City</b>				
El Cerrito	25,484	-0.88	2.61	1.16
<b>County and Broader Regions</b>				
Contra Costa County	1,147,653	-0.36	-0.19	-0.02
Bay Area	7,548,792	-0.45	-2.58	-2.62
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	Bay Area	California
Contra Costa County	1,151.8	1,147.7	-0.36	-0.45	-0.35
Concord	123.1	122.1	-0.84		
Antioch	114.4	115.4	0.94		
Richmond	114.5	113.5	-0.88		
San Ramon	83.6	82.9	-0.86		
Pittsburg	74.7	74.8	0.16		
Walnut Creek	69.6	69.2	-0.51		
Brentwood	64.2	64.5	0.46		
Oakley	44.3	45.0	1.67		
Danville	43.2	42.8	-0.79		
Martinez	36.8	36.5	-0.67		
Pleasant Hill	33.7	33.4	-0.89		
San Pablo	31.6	31.3	-1.02		
Hercules	25.9	26.3	1.36		
El Cerrito	25.7	25.5	-0.88		
Lafayette	25.1	25.0	-0.46		
Orinda	19.3	19.2	-0.52		
Pinole	18.4	18.2	-1.07		
Moraga	17.1	16.9	-0.95		
Clayton	10.8	10.7	-1.08		

Source: CA DOF; Calculations by National Economic Education Delegation

Figure 1: Population Growth (1)

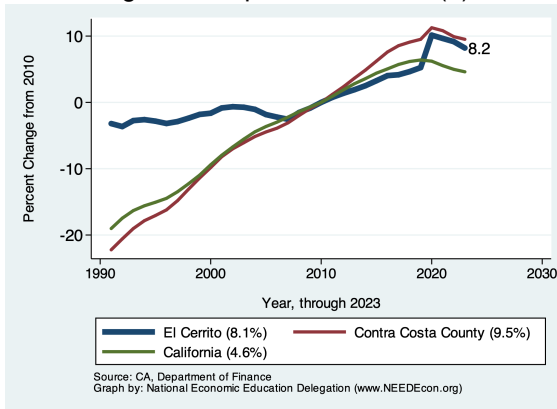


Figure 2: Population Growth (2)

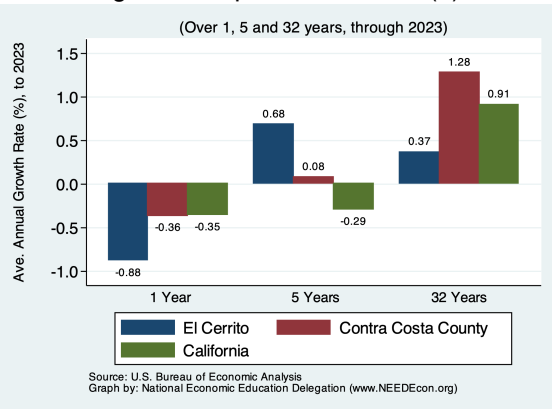


Figure 3: Population by Age - Detailed Age Categories

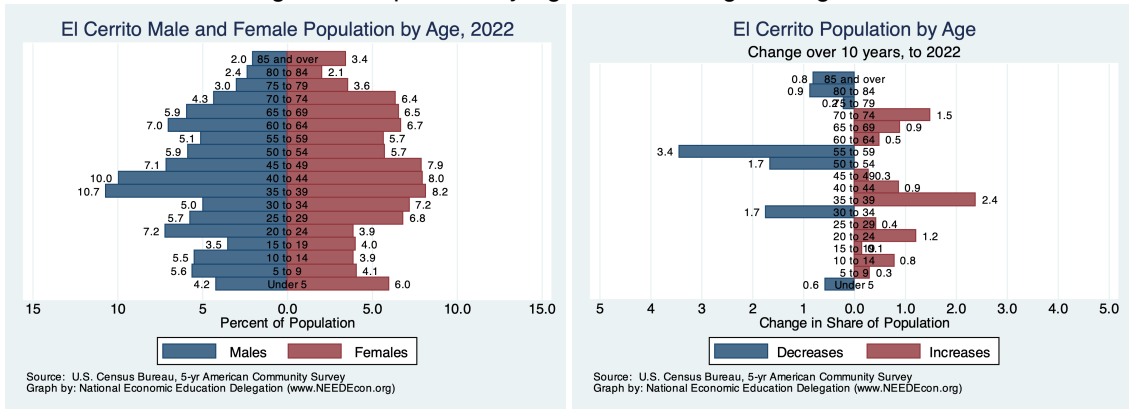


Figure 4: Population by Age - Broad Age Categories

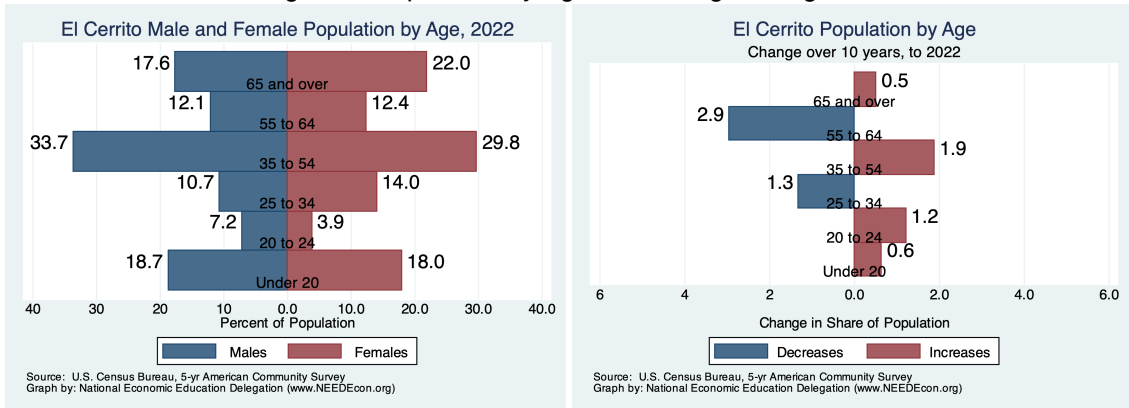


Figure 5: Population by Educational Attainment

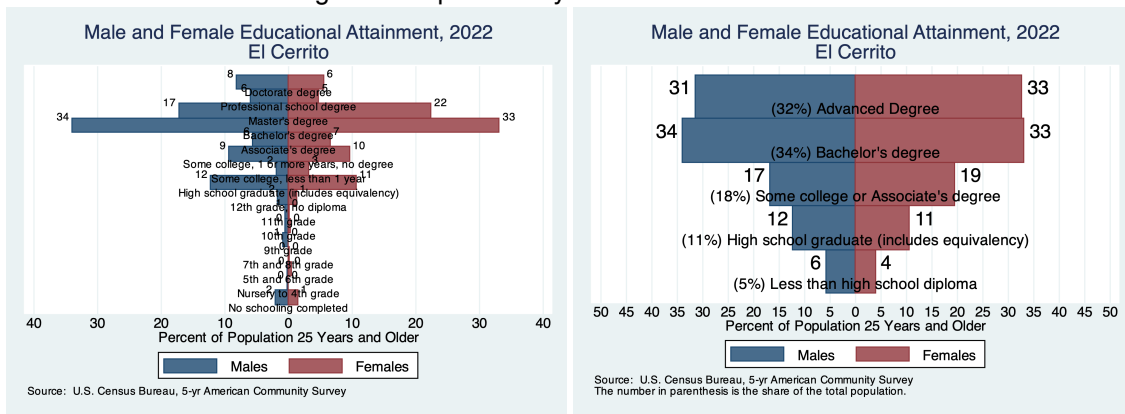


Figure 6: Population by Race/Ethnicity

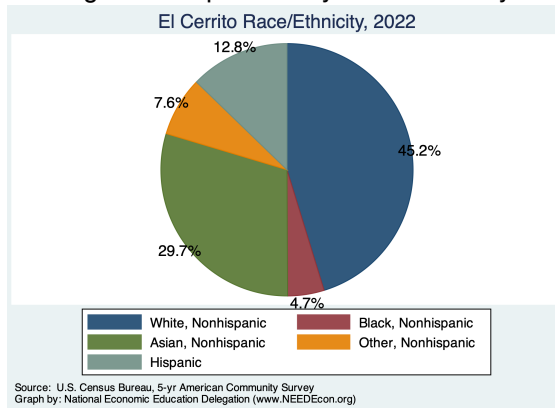
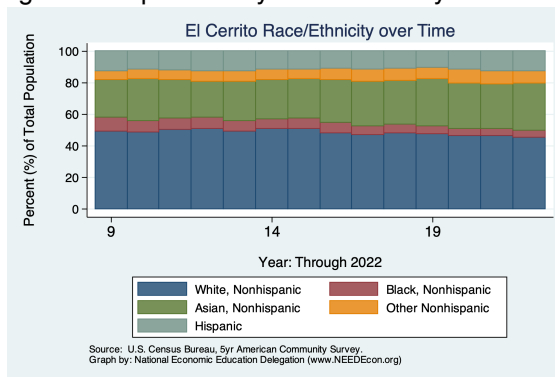


Figure 7: Population by Race/Ethnicity Over Time





# 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?

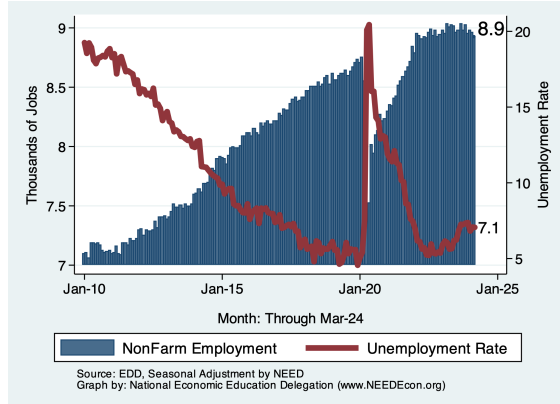
Employment growth is a fundamental indicator of the health of an economy.

Table 3. El Cerrito 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

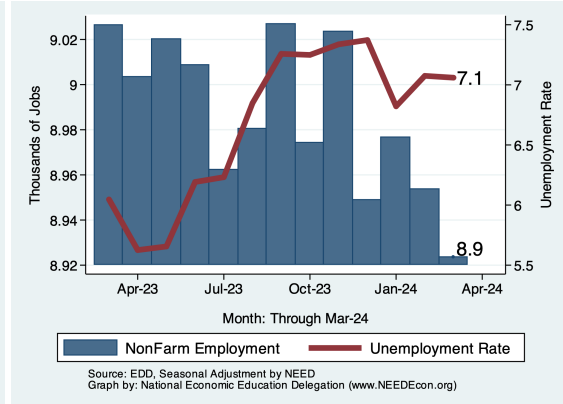
Source: EDD, National Economic Education Delegation

Figure 8: Historical Employment and Unemployment - Last 12 Months



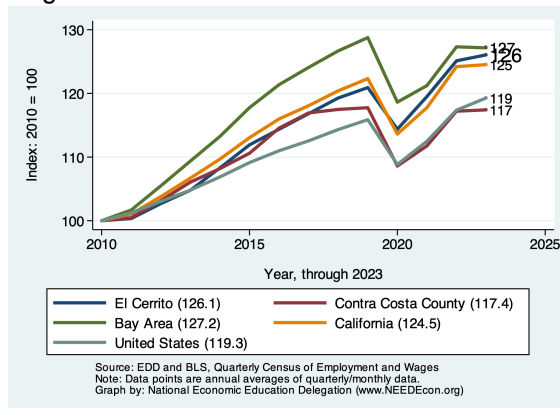
Source: EDD, Seasonal Adjustment by NEED  
Graph by: National Economic Education Delegation (www.NEEDecon.org)

Figure 9: Employment and Unemployment - Last 12 Months



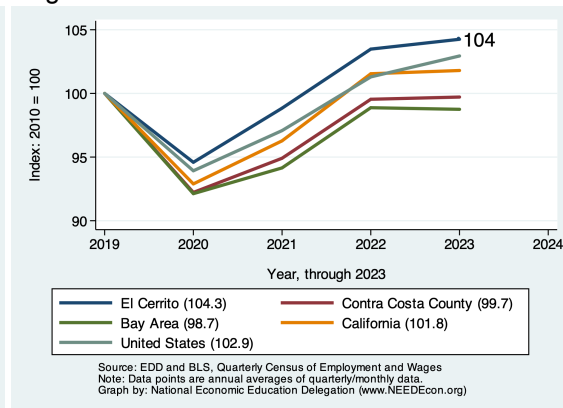
Source: EDD, Seasonal Adjustment by NEED  
Graph by: National Economic Education Delegation (www.NEEDecon.org)

Figure 10: Relative Employment Growth Across Regions - since 2010



Source: EDD and BLS, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages  
Note: Data points are annual averages of quarterly/monthly data.  
Graph by: National Economic Education Delegation (www.NEEDecon.org)

Figure 11: Relative Employment Growth Across Regions - since 2019



Source: EDD and BLS, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages  
Note: Data points are annual averages of quarterly/monthly data.  
Graph by: National Economic Education Delegation (www.NEEDecon.org)

## 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 Contra Costa County. The following table provides the latest data for the County.

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

Industry	Employment	Share	Empl Growth	% Growth - Annualized Rate					
				Month	Qtr	6mo	1yr	3yr	5yr
<b>Total Nonfarm</b>	377,913	100.0	902.6	2.9	0.4	1.1	1.1	2.8	0.2
<b>Goods Producing</b>	39,893	10.6	198.5	6.2	-6.0	-3.2	-1.6	-0.0	-0.9
Mining, Logging and Construction	26,863	7.1	445.0	22.2	-8.4	-3.0	0.4	1.2	1.0
Manufacturing	13,478	3.6	-3.7	-0.3	-3.8	-2.7	-3.0	-1.1	-3.3
Durable Goods	6,291	1.7	-1.8	-0.3	-4.6	-3.2	-3.7	0.2	-0.6
Non-Durable Goods	7,225	1.9	-2.6	-0.4	-3.0	-1.6	-1.0	-1.8	-5.1
<b>Service Providing</b>	338,565	89.6	542.6	1.9	1.4	1.9	1.6	3.2	0.4
Trade, Trans & Utilities	63,677	16.8	-192.2	-3.6	-0.7	-1.6	-0.9	1.0	0.4
Wholesale Trade	7,775	2.1	-57.8	-8.5	-1.0	-3.3	-3.1	-1.6	-3.3
Retail Trade	41,830	11.1	-41.9	-1.2	0.9	0.7	0.4	0.9	0.1
Information	5,383	1.4	20.9	4.8	-4.5	-7.5	-6.9	-2.5	-5.3
Financial Activities	23,466	6.2	25.5	1.3	-4.7	-4.2	-2.5	-2.3	-2.6
Finance & Insurance	15,858	4.2	149.1	12.0	1.3	-1.2	-2.4	-4.6	-3.8
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	7,522	2.0	-69.5	-10.5	-12.3	-6.0	-2.8	3.7	0.3
Professional & Business Svcs	56,006	14.8	69.1	1.5	1.0	0.9	0.2	0.0	-0.0
Prof, Sci, & Tech	26,070	6.9	70.2	3.3	2.9	3.3	1.8	1.4	1.6
Educational & Health Svcs	84,354	22.3	453.2	6.7	4.7	5.8	6.1	5.8	3.3
Education Svcs	7,747	2.1	63.0	10.3	-4.3	2.8	1.9	6.1	0.1
Health Care & Social Assistance	76,581	20.3	378.1	6.1	5.2	6.1	6.6	5.7	3.6
Leisure & Hospitality	43,027	11.4	-80.7	-2.2	1.5	2.8	1.9	12.7	0.1
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	8,421	2.2	133.5	21.1	13.1	12.9	7.0	32.8	4.4
Accommodation & Food Svcs	34,960	9.3	-113.2	-3.8	1.8	2.0	0.8	9.3	-0.6
Other Svcs	13,060	3.5	184.7	18.6	-5.0	1.1	4.0	5.3	-1.0
<b>Government</b>	49,364	13.1	103.8	2.6	2.2	3.1	2.4	2.7	-0.5
Federal	4,772	1.3	0.0	0.0	-3.0	0.0	0.8	-0.9	0.3
State	1,616	0.4	-2.1	-1.5	-1.4	2.3	1.0	-1.6	0.2
Local	43,222	11.4	142.9	4.1	3.6	3.4	3.0	3.6	-0.5

Source: EDD, National Economic Education Delegation (NEED)

## Some Employee Detail

### Employed in El Cerrito

Figure 12: Employment by Occupation

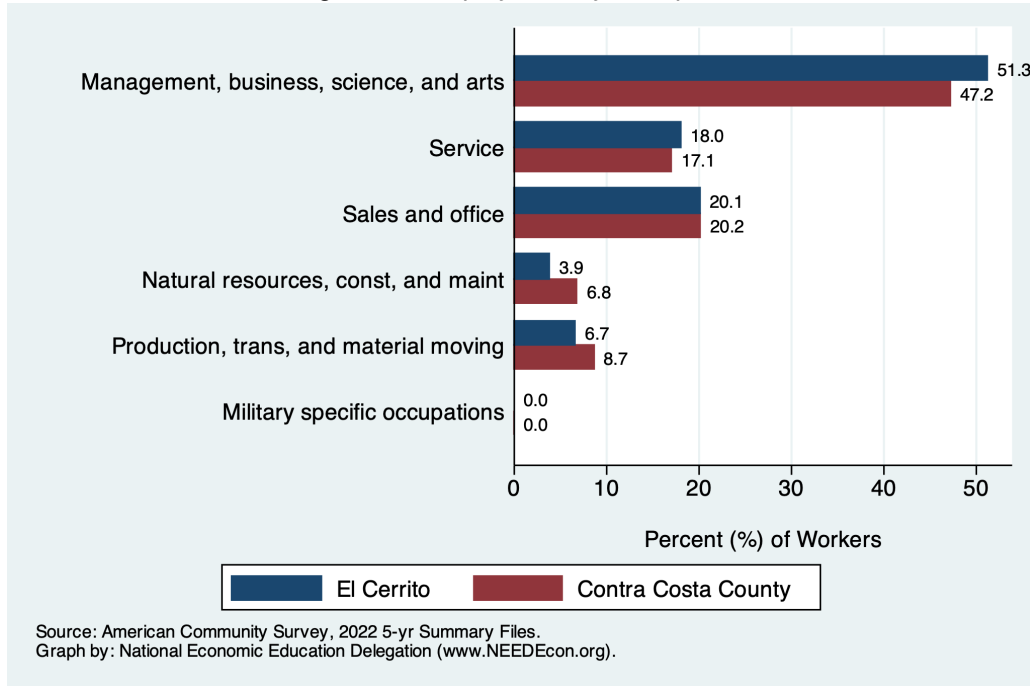


Figure 13: Employment by Industry

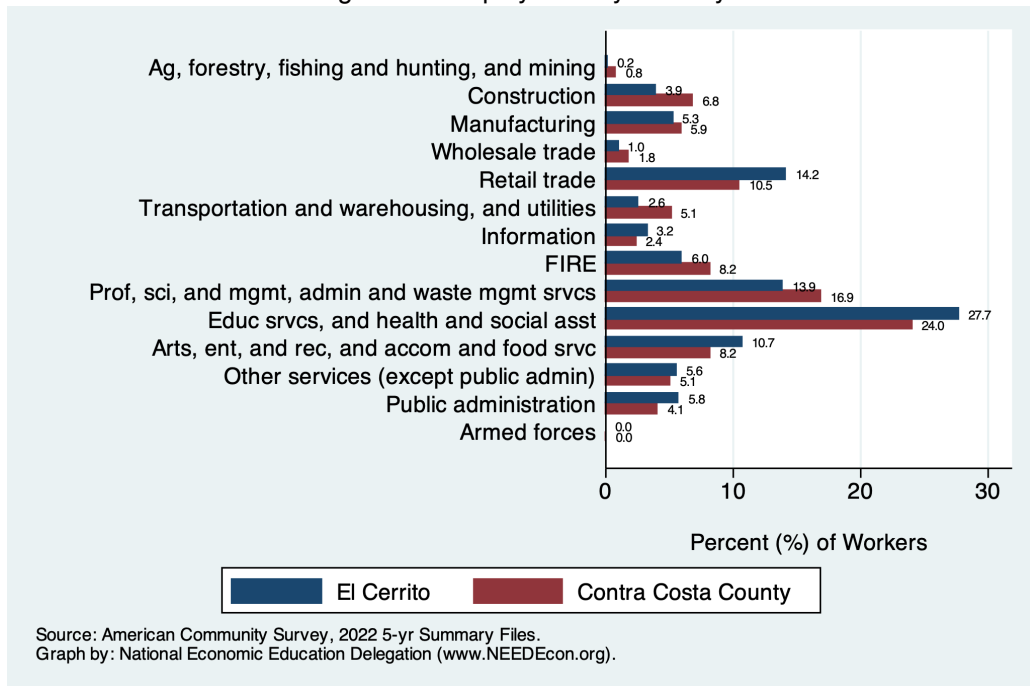


Figure 14: Language Spoken at Home

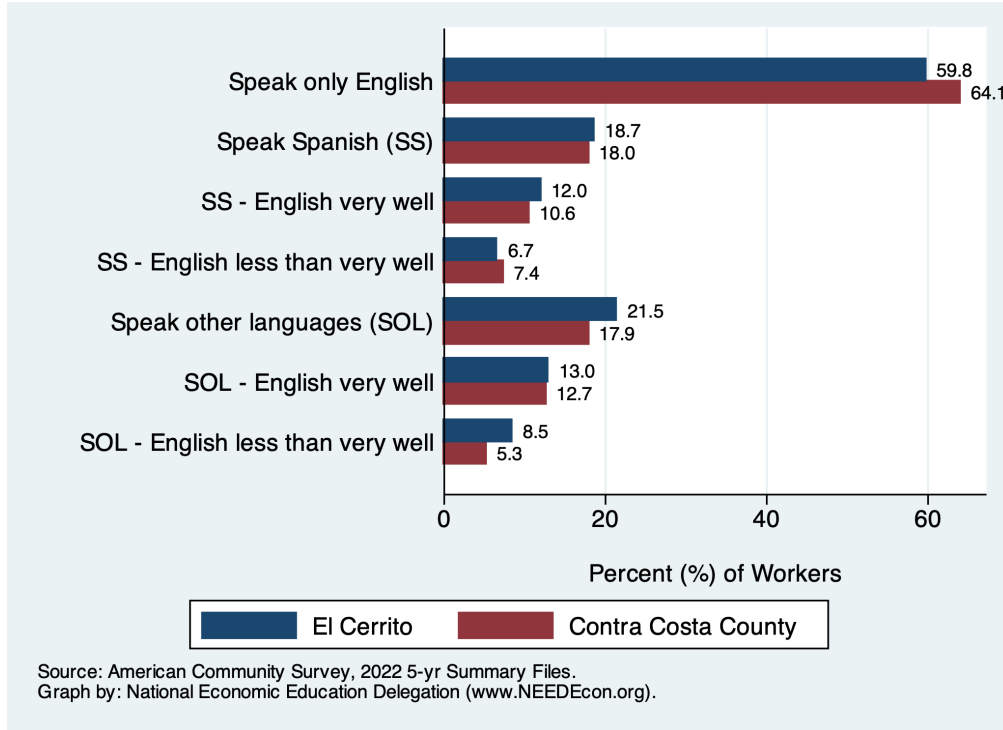
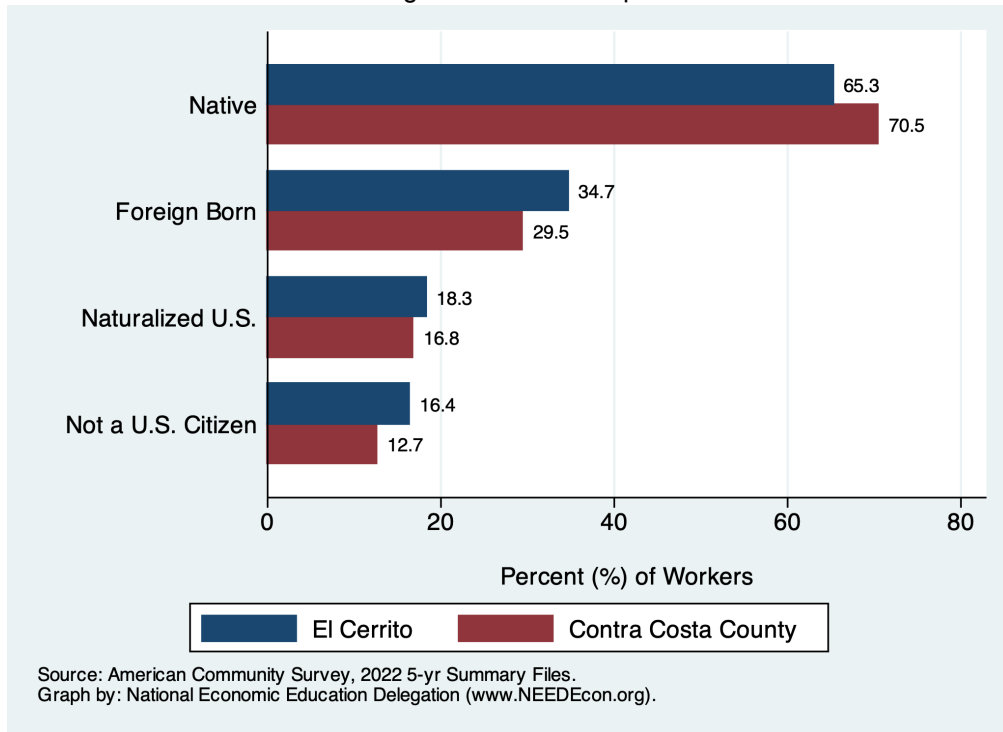


Figure 15: Citizenship



## Employed Residents of El Cerrito

Figure 16: Employment by Occupation

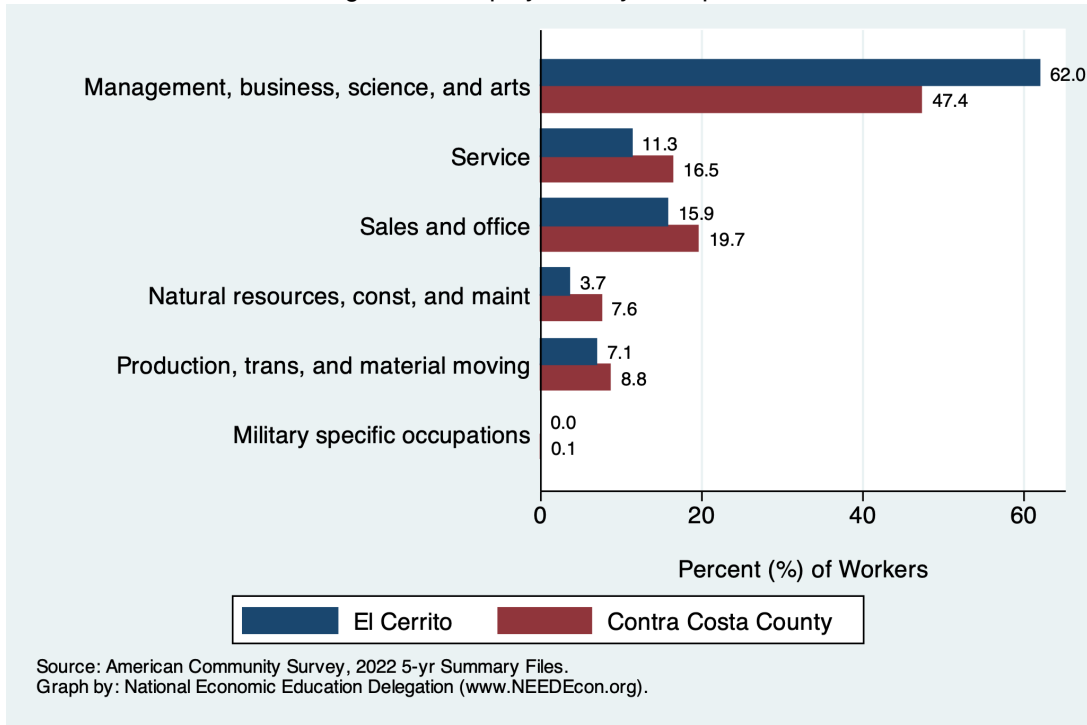


Figure 17: Employment by Industry

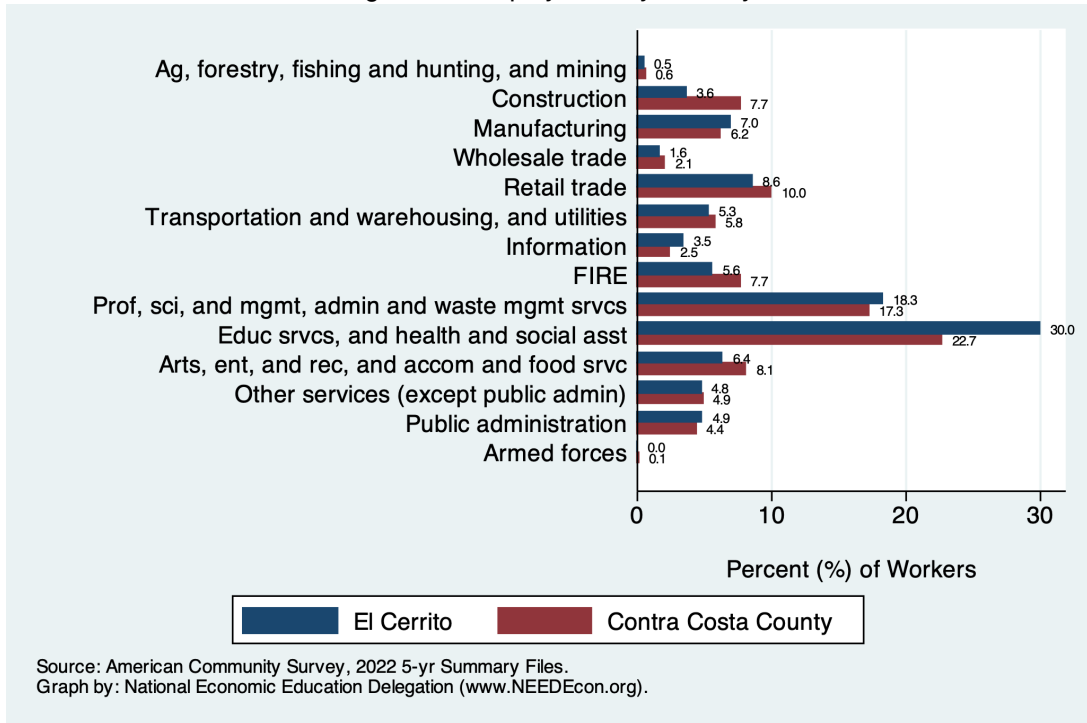
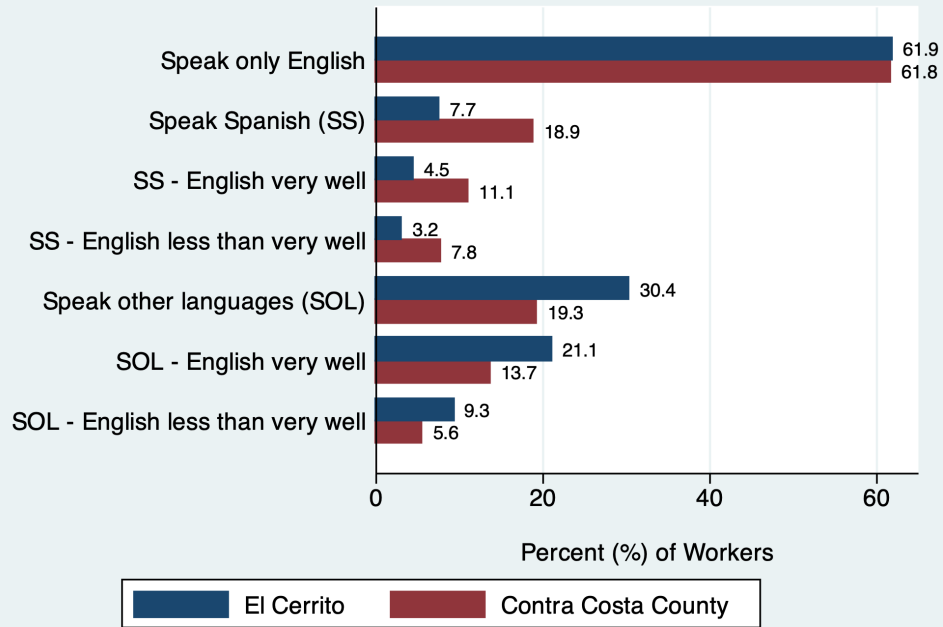
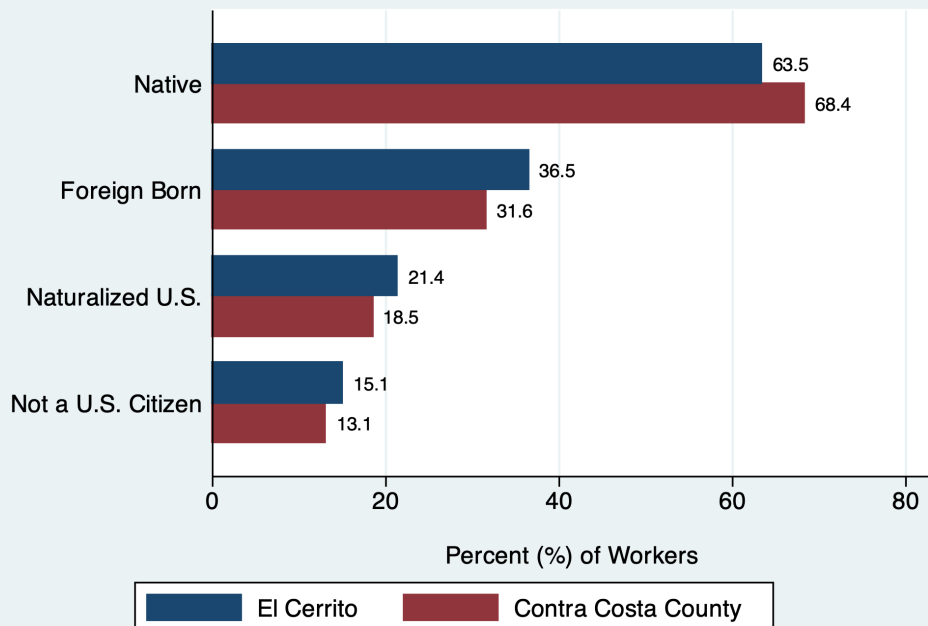


Figure 18: Language Spoken at Home



Source: American Community Survey, 2022 5-yr Summary Files.  
 Graph by: National Economic Education Delegation ([www.NEEDecon.org](http://www.NEEDecon.org)).

Figure 19: Citizenship



Source: American Community Survey, 2022 5-yr Summary Files.  
 Graph by: National Economic Education Delegation ([www.NEEDecon.org](http://www.NEEDecon.org)).

## Employed Residents vs Workers in El Cerrito

Figure 20: Employment by Occupation

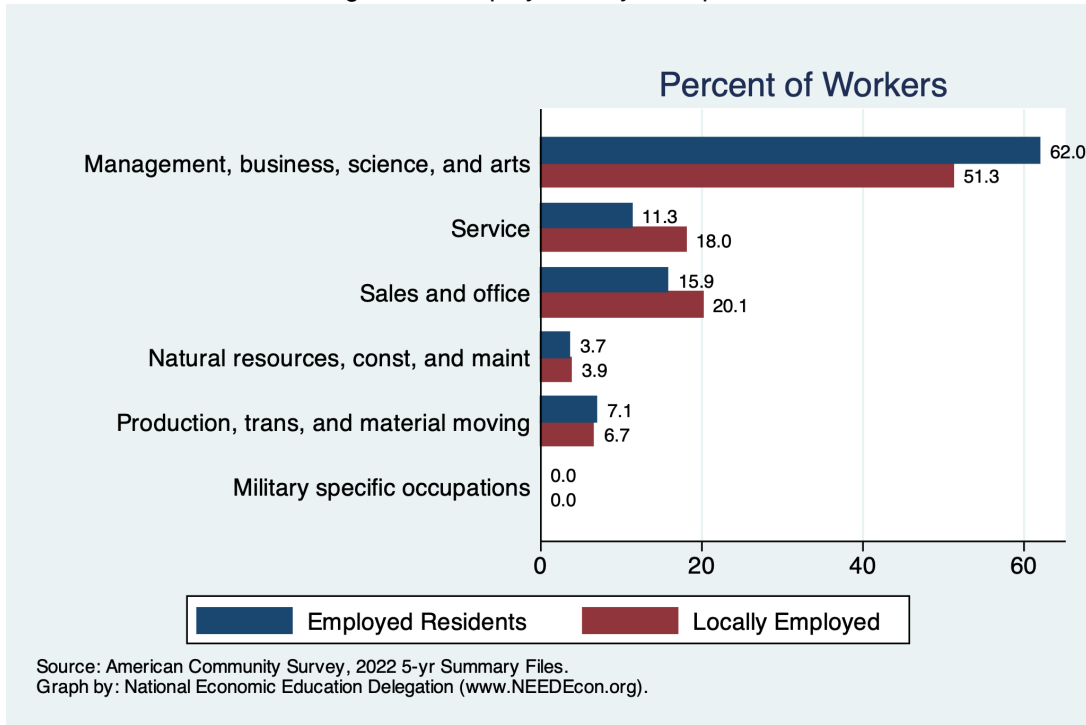


Figure 21: Employment by Industry

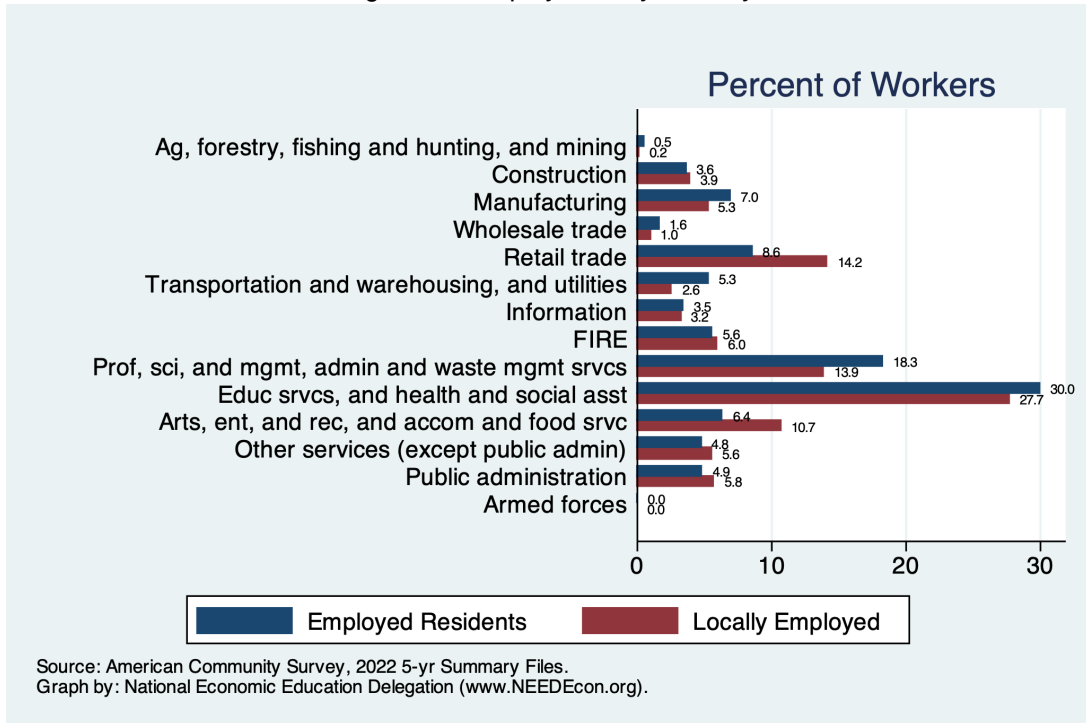


Figure 22: Language Spoken at Home

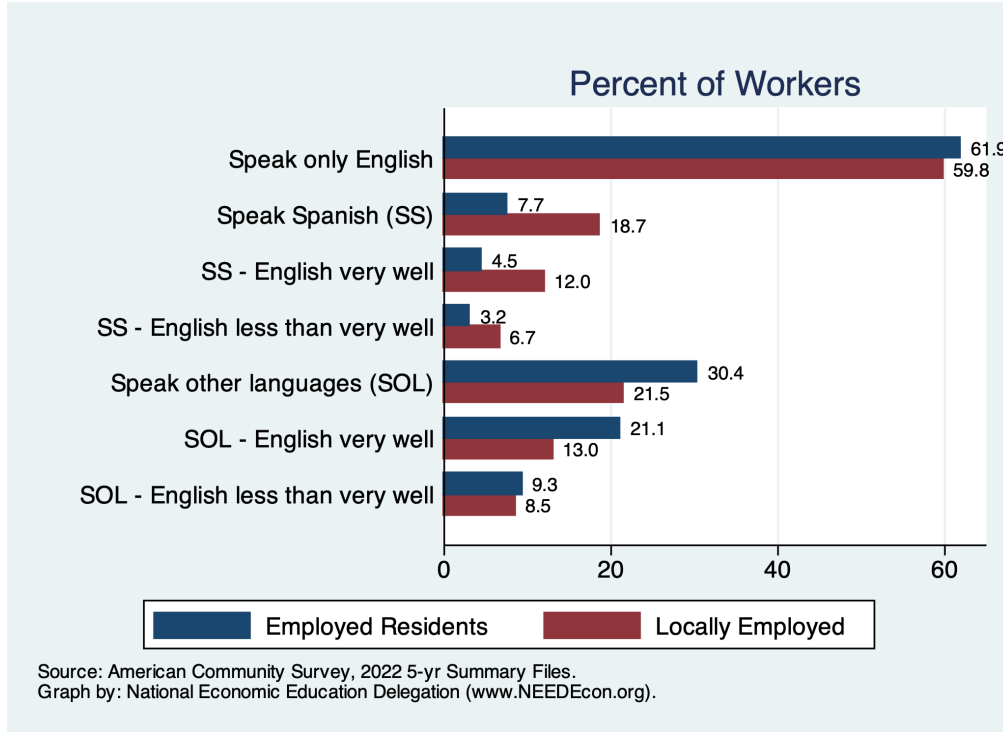
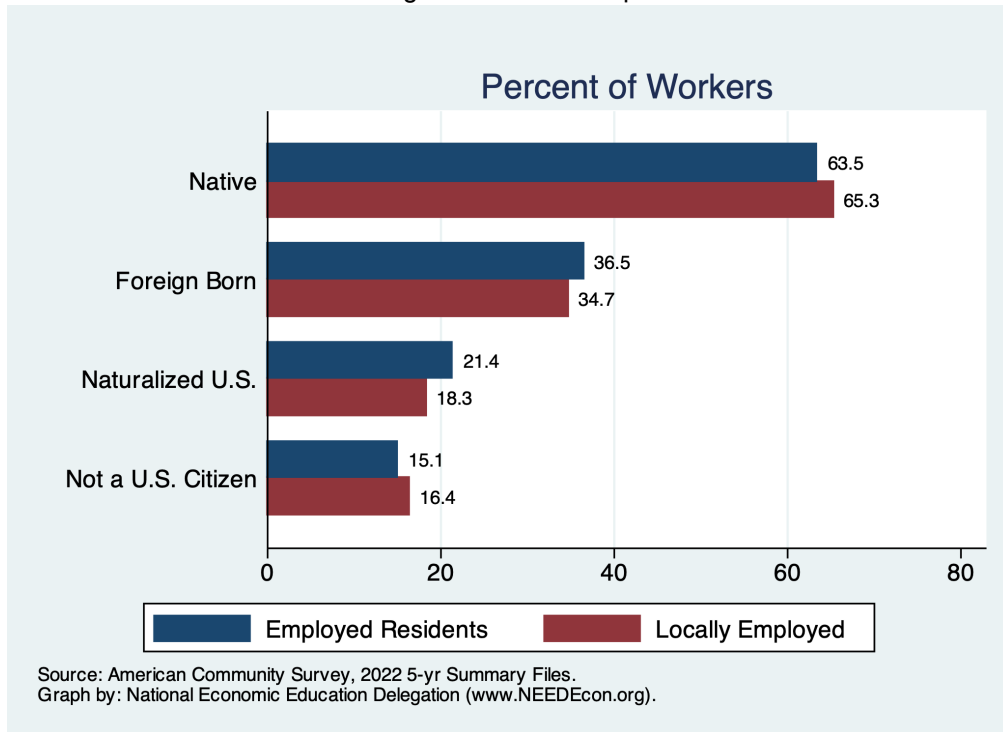


Figure 23: Citizenship





# Income and Earnings

## Per Capita Income Growth

### Definition:

Per capita income is the average income per person in El Cerrito. 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

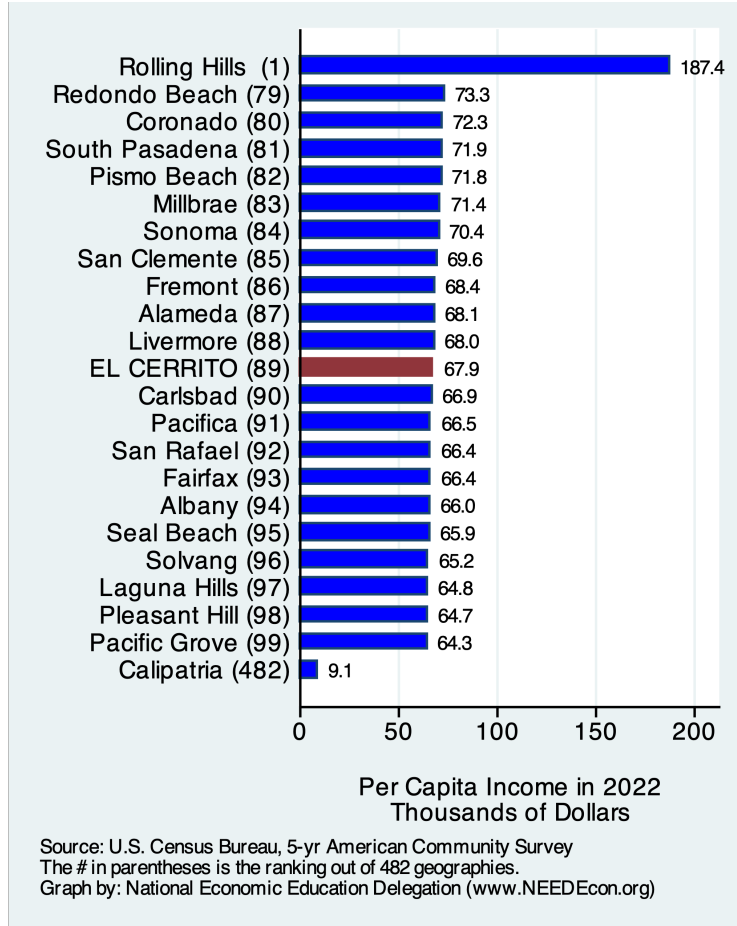
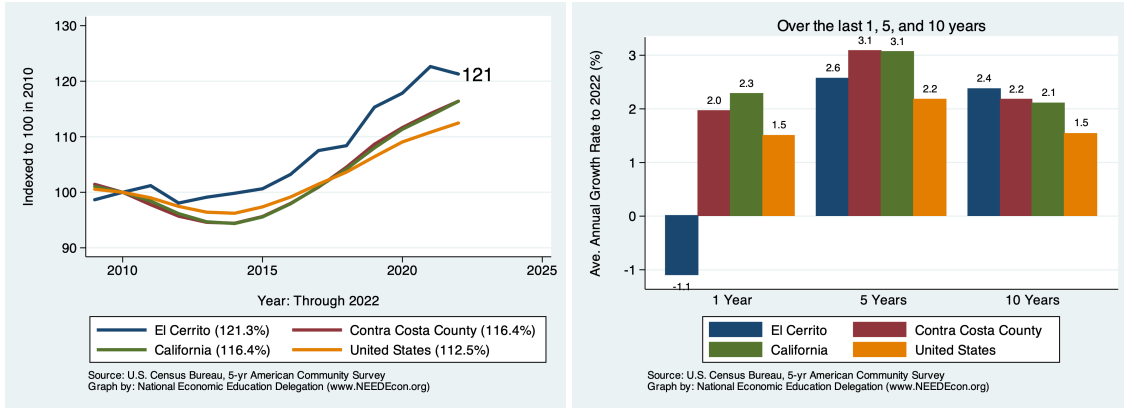


Figure 25: Regional Comparison of Growth over Time



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

Figure 26: Income Levels

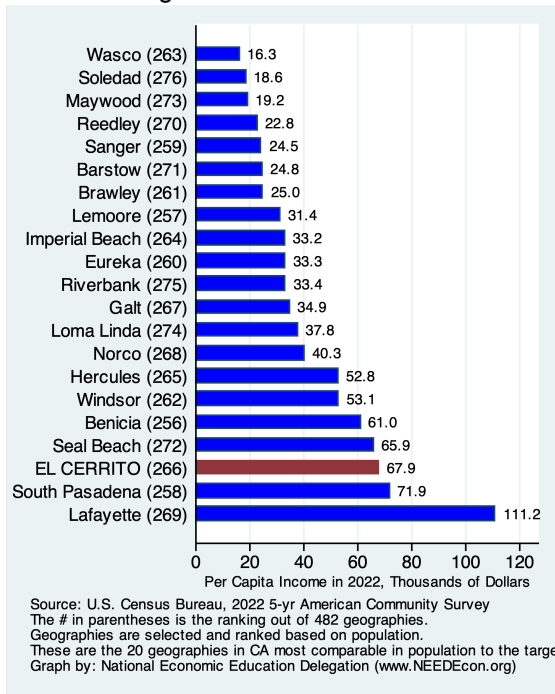
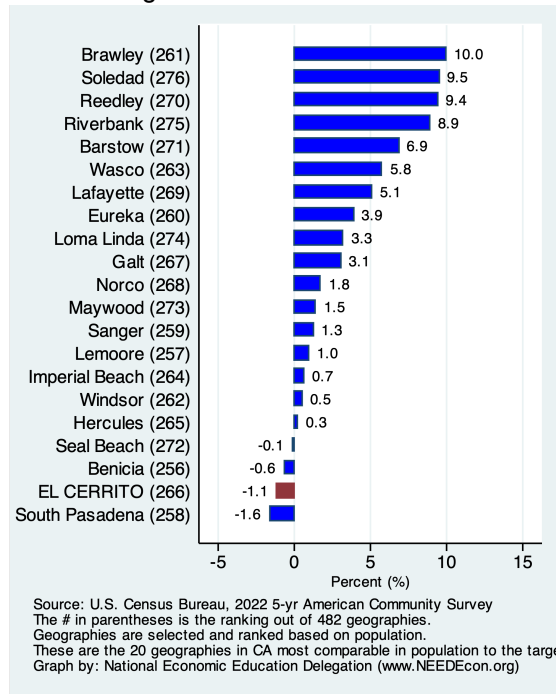


Figure 27: Growth over Time



## Real Per Capita Income Ranking Among Cities in Contra Costa County

Figure 28: Income Levels

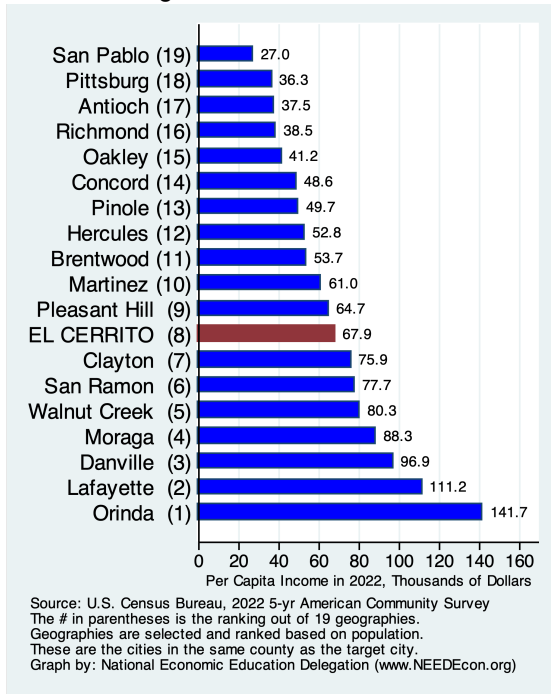


Figure 29: Growth over Time

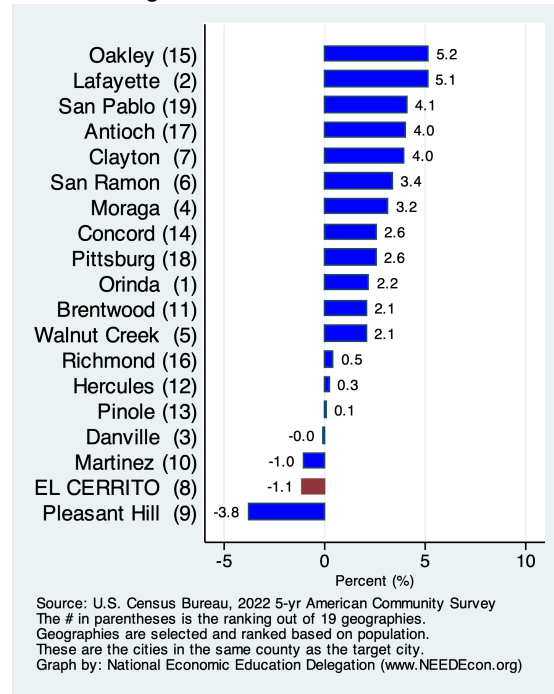
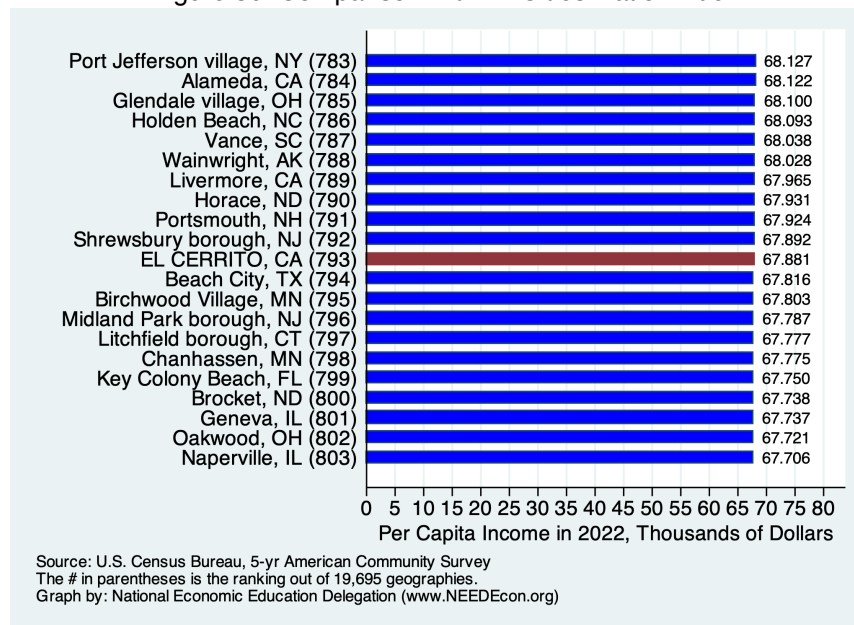


Figure 30: Comparison with All Cities Nationwide



## 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.

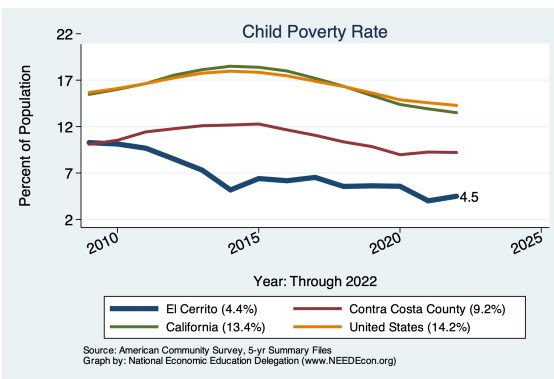
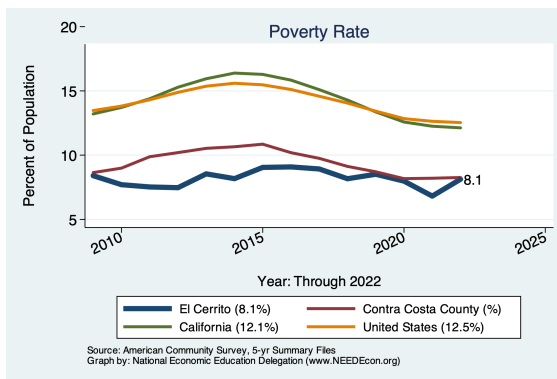


Figure 31: Inequality

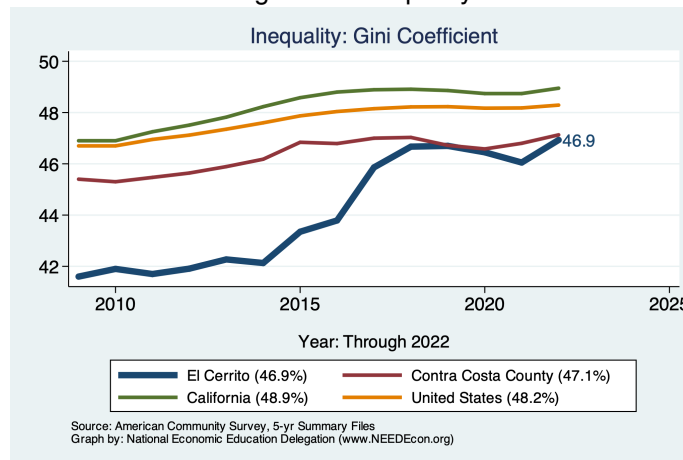


Figure 32: Shares Across the Income Distribution

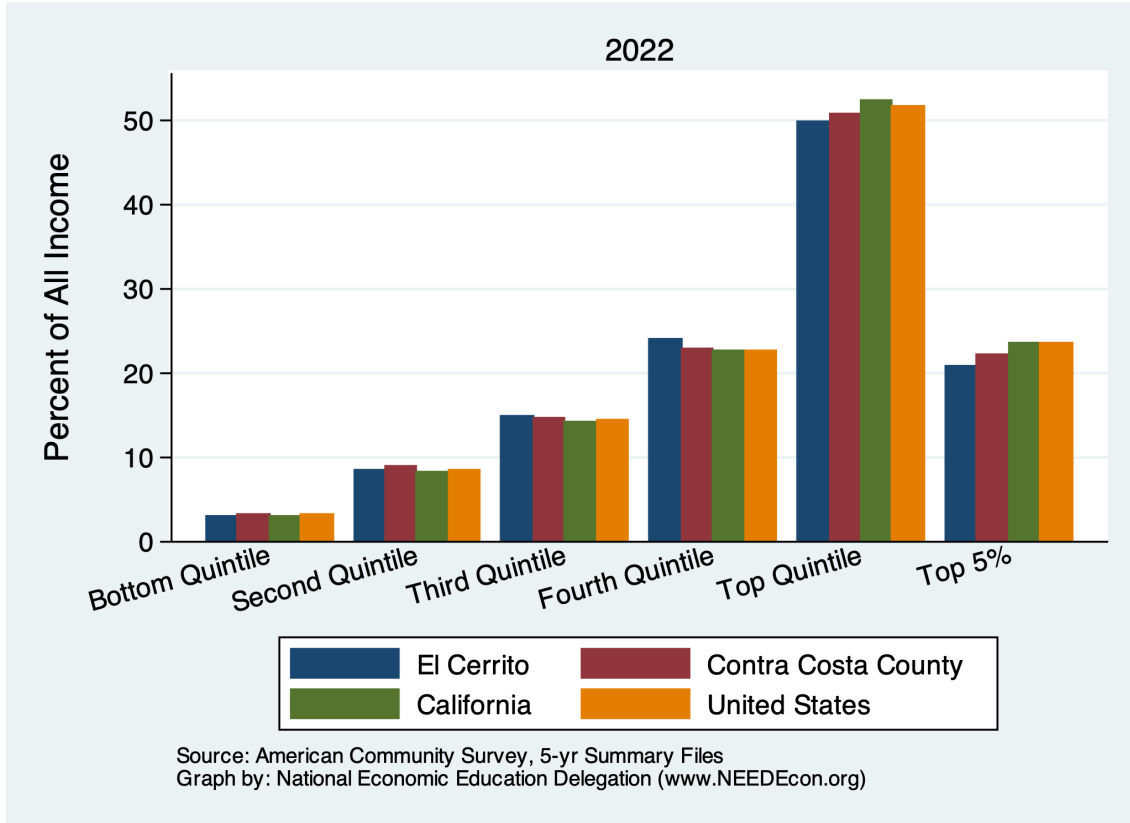
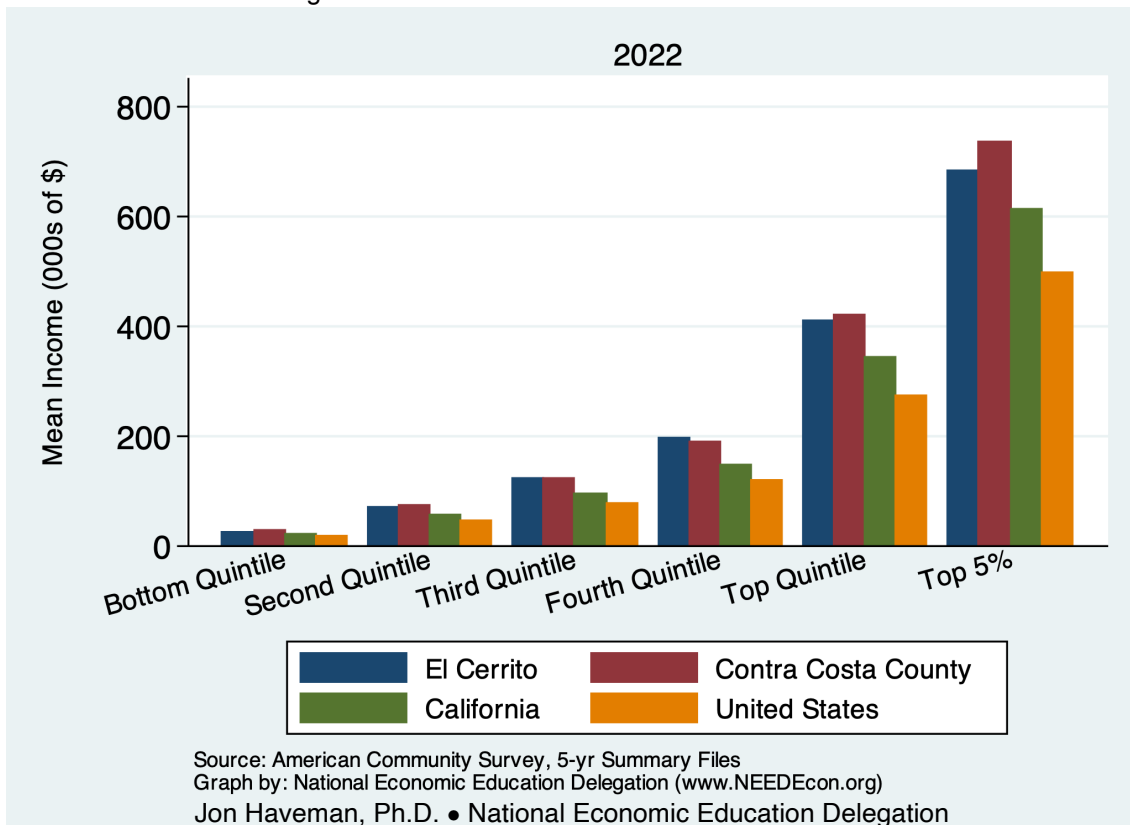


Figure 33: Means Across the Income Distribution



# 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 El Cerrito and Broader Regions

Figure 34: Median Home Prices

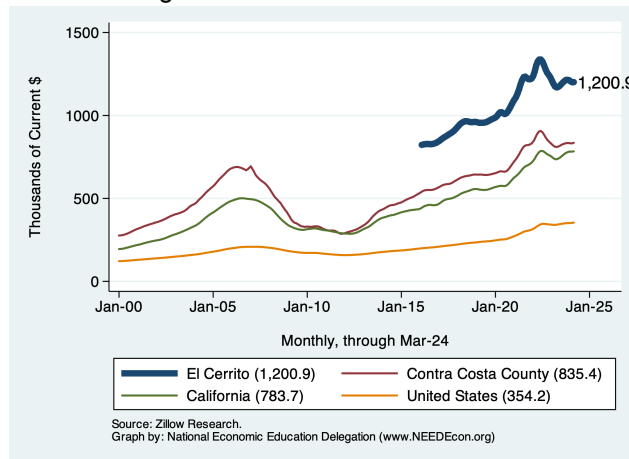
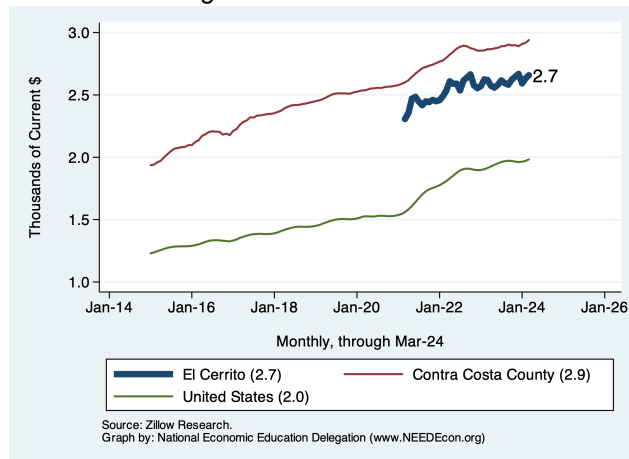


Figure 35: Median Rents



## Housing Ownership in El Cerrito and Broader Regions

Figure 36: Home Ownership Rates

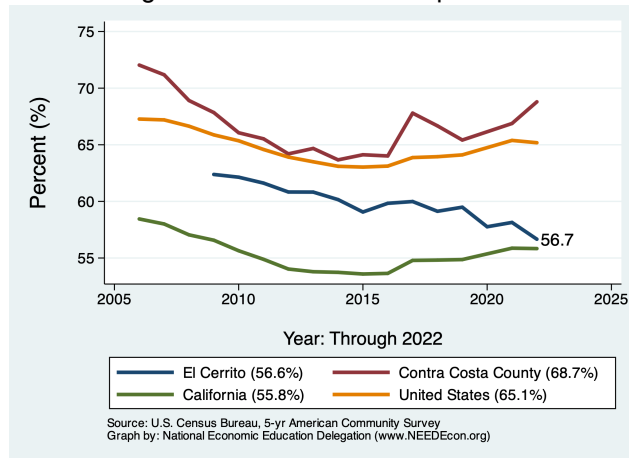


Figure 37: Home Ownership by Age

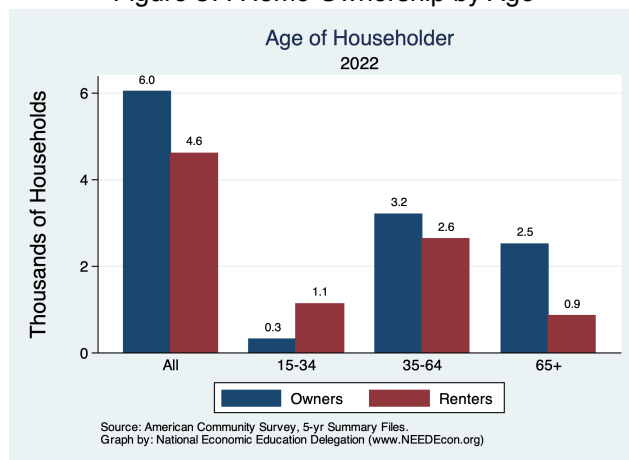


Figure 38: Income by Tenure

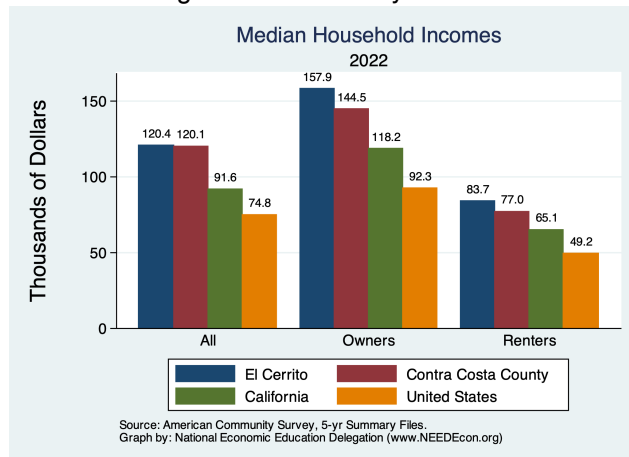


Figure 39: Income Distribution by Tenure

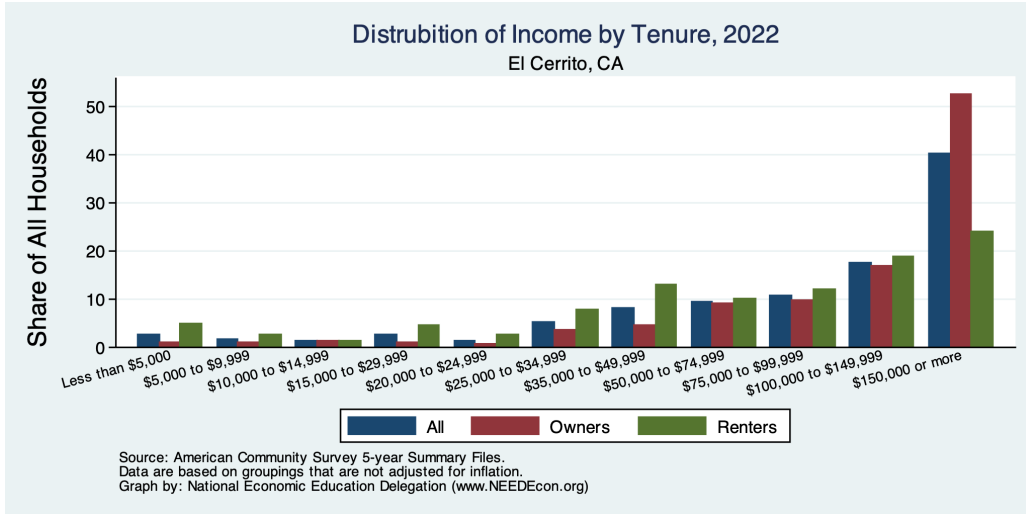


Figure 40: Income Distribution of Home Owners

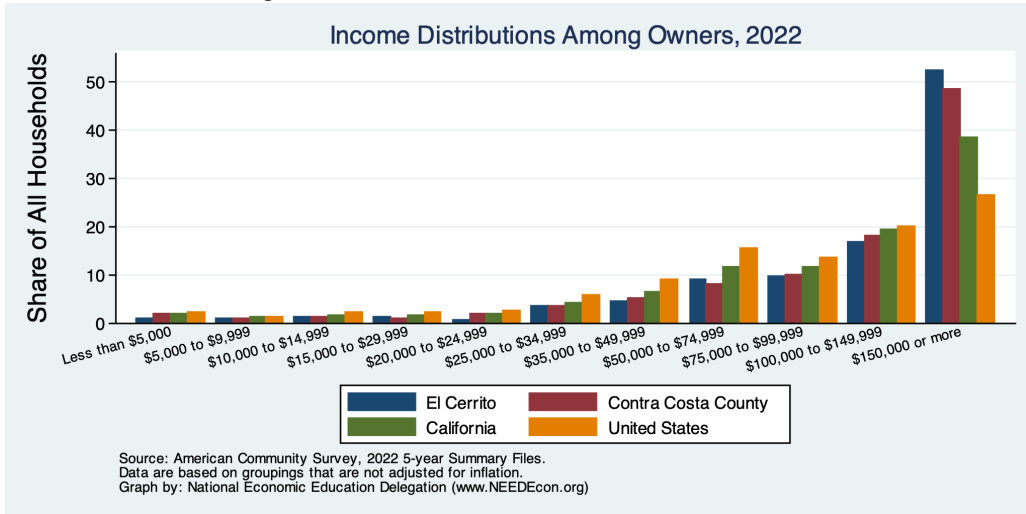
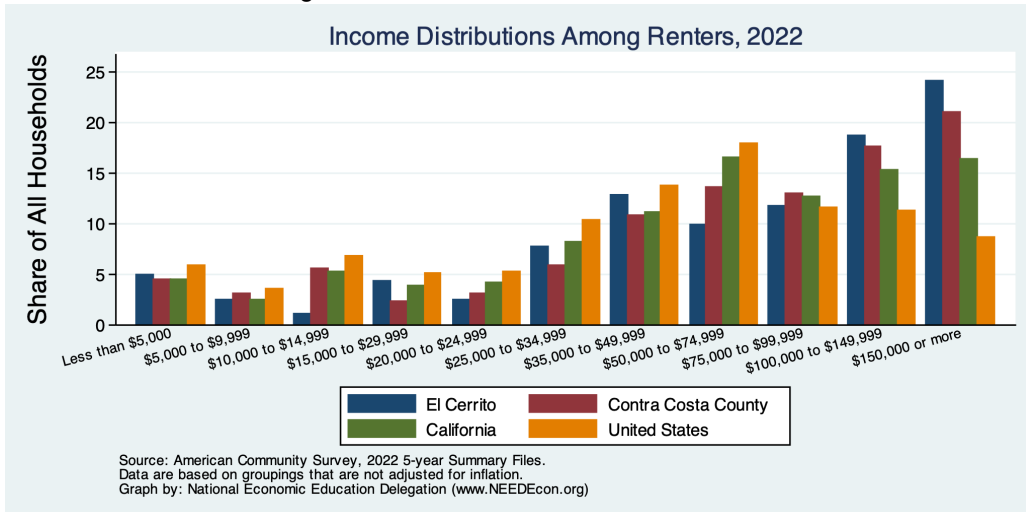


Figure 41: Income Distribution of Renters





## Housing Burden in El Cerrito and Broader Regions

Figure 42: Home Owners w/ A Mortgage

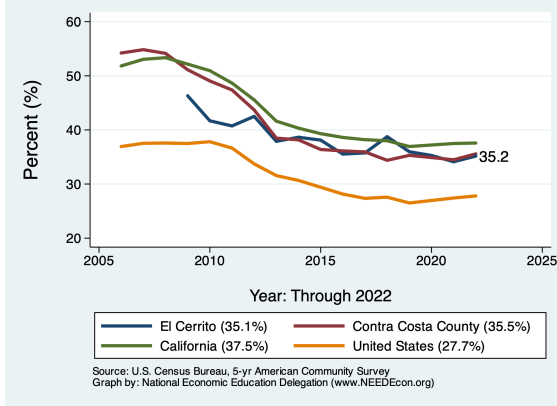


Figure 43: Home Owners w/o A Mortgage

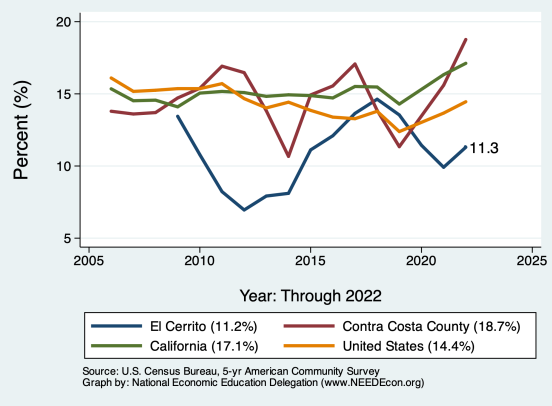


Figure 44: Renters

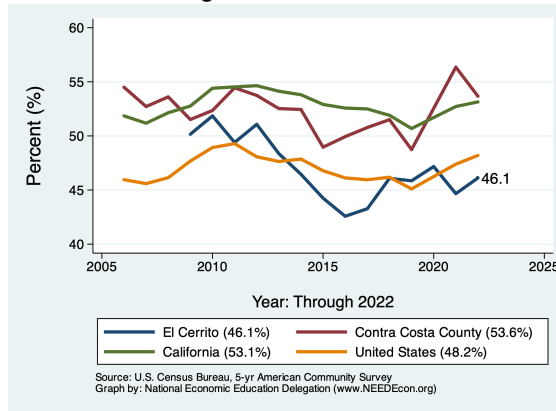
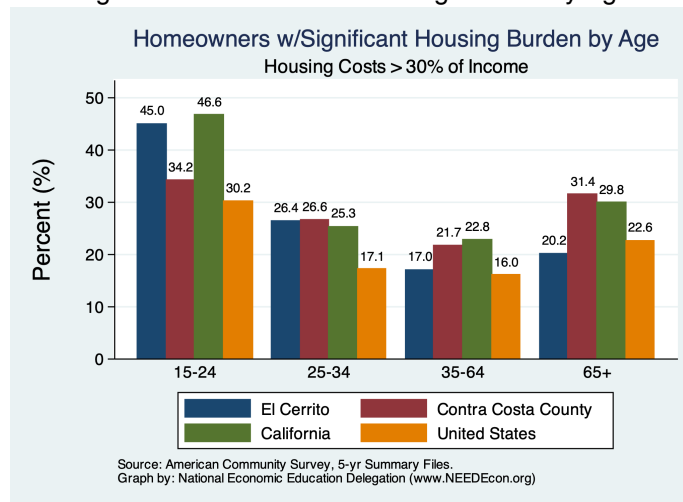


Figure 45: Homeowner Housing Burden by Age



# 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?

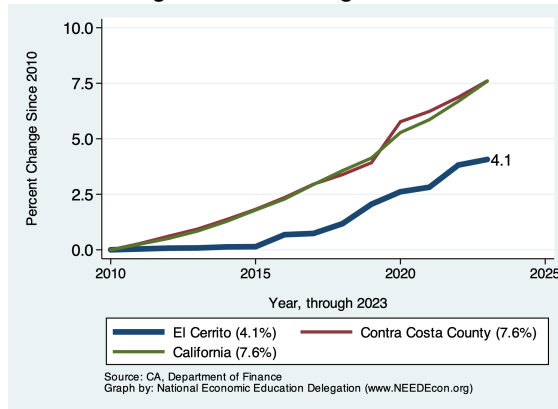
In areas where the rate of population growth exceeds the rate of housing growth, this is likely to reflect a tightening housing market. A tightening housing market will also likely be reflected in lower vacancy rates and higher occupancy rates. It may also be reflected in higher numbers of people per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

**Table 5. Housing Market Indicators**

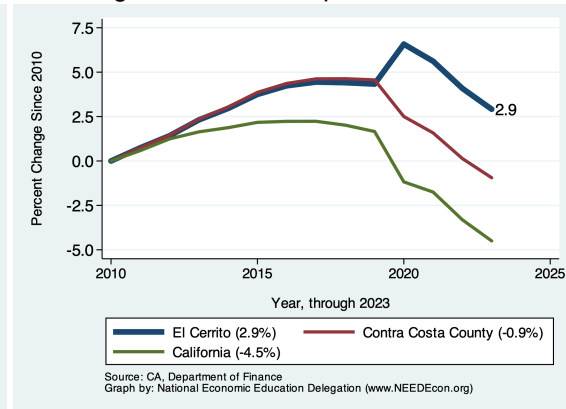
Indicator	2023	2019	2010	% Change from	
				2019	2010
Total Population	25,484.0	24,852.0	23,549.0	2.5	8.2
Total # of Homes	11,152.0	10,936.0	10,716.0	2.0	4.1
# Occupied Units	10,664.0	10,261.0	10,142.0	3.9	5.1
Persons per Household	2.4	2.4	2.3	-1.4	2.9
Vacancy Rate (%)	4.4	6.2	5.4	-29.1	-18.3

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

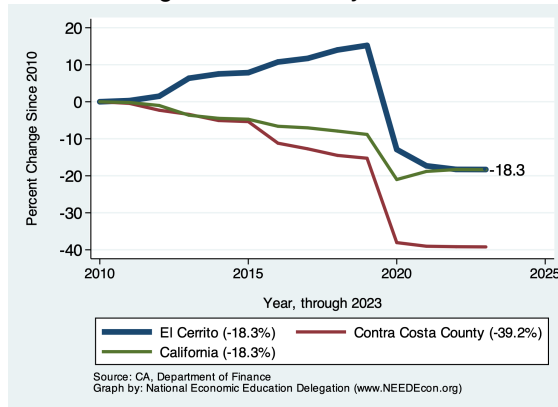
**Figure 46: Housing Growth**



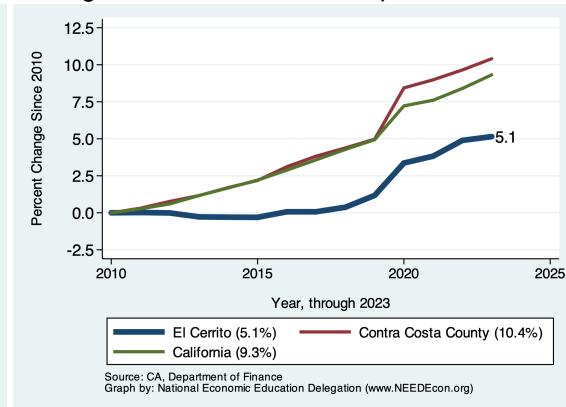
**Figure 47: Persons per Household**



**Figure 48: Vacancy Rates**



**Figure 49: Number of Occupanied Units**



## Trends in the Growth of Housing by Housing Type

Figure 50: Single Detached Homes

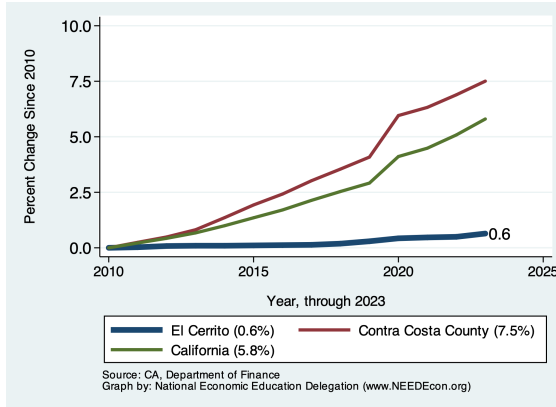


Figure 51: Single Attached Homes

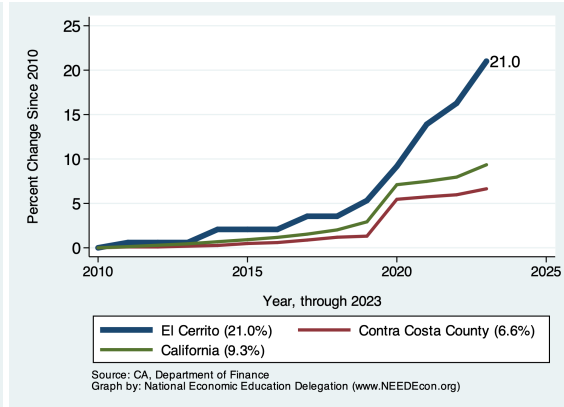


Figure 52: Housing in Buildings with Two to Four Units

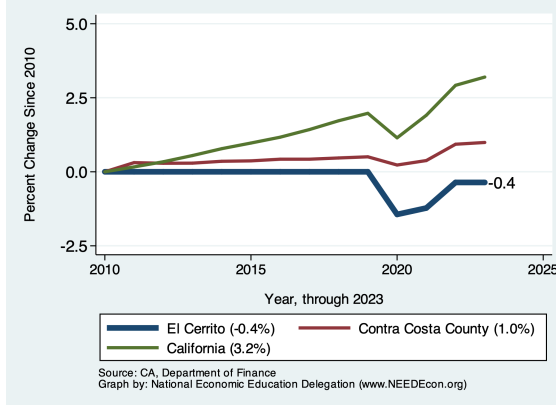
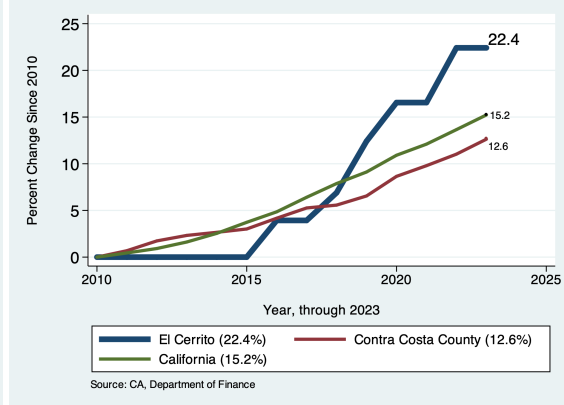


Figure 53: Housing in Buildings with Five or More Units



## Vintage of Residential Housing

### Why is it important?

This section provides evidence on the year in which residential housing in El Cerrito was built. We break it down into owned versus rented residences and provide a comparison across Contra Costa 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

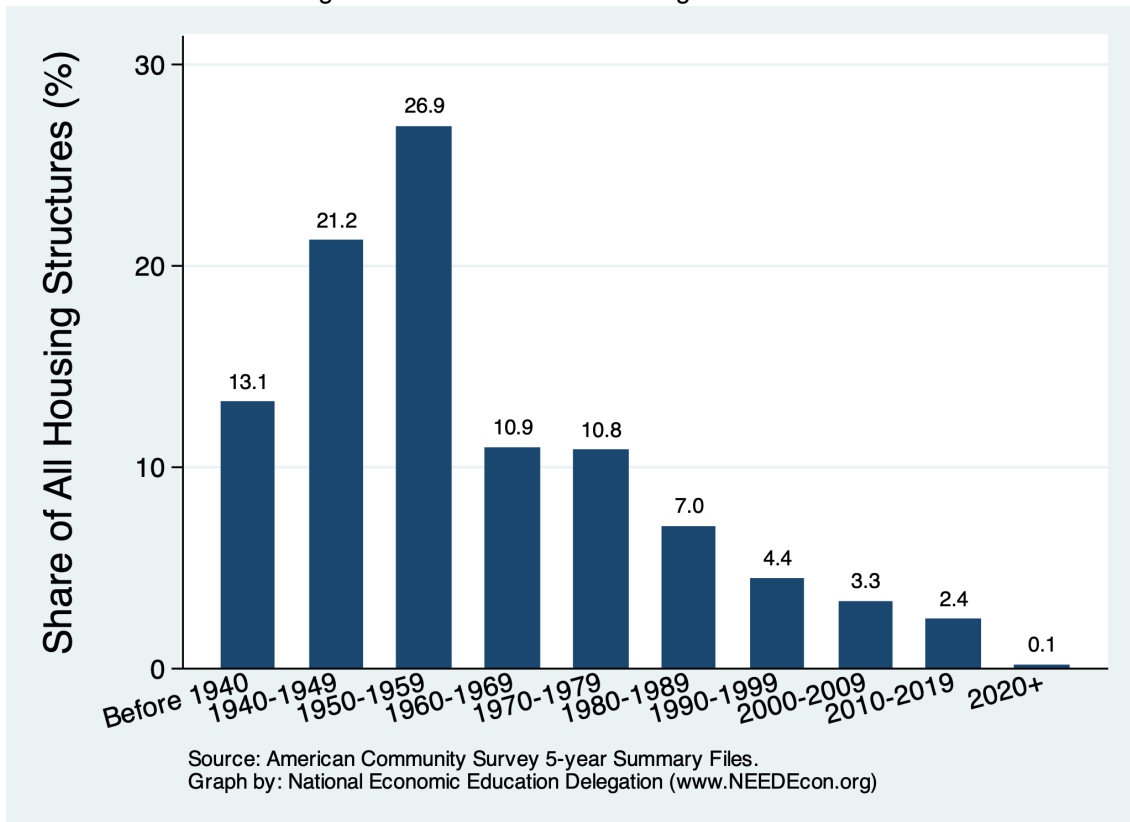


Figure 55: Housing Vintage across Regions

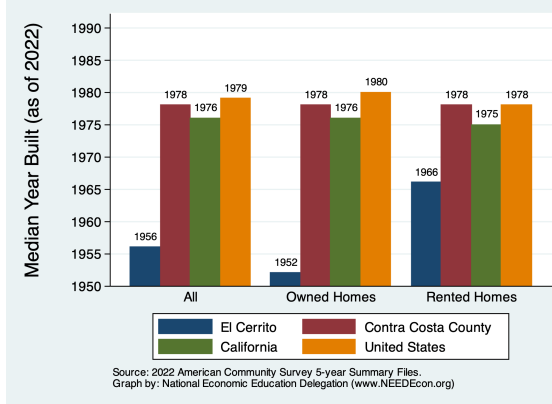


Figure 56: Housing Vintage by Tenure

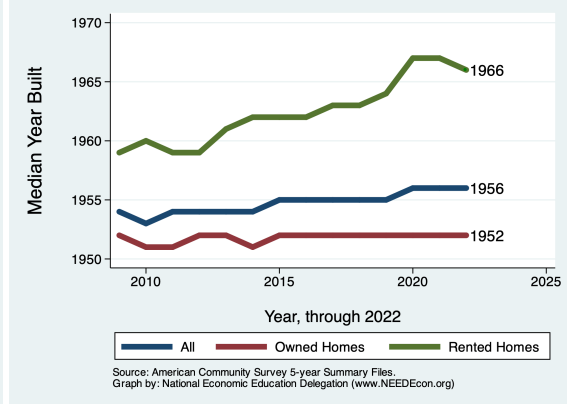


Figure 57: Vintage of Owned Residences

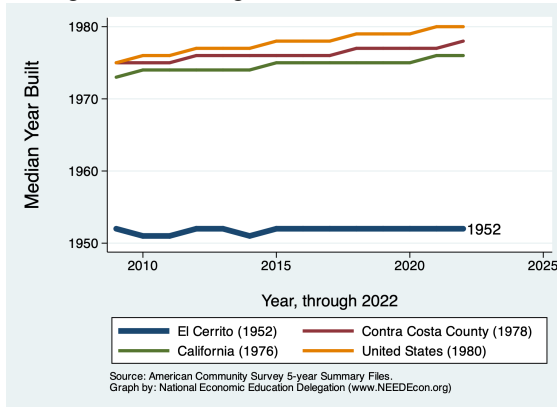


Figure 58: Vintage of Rented Residences

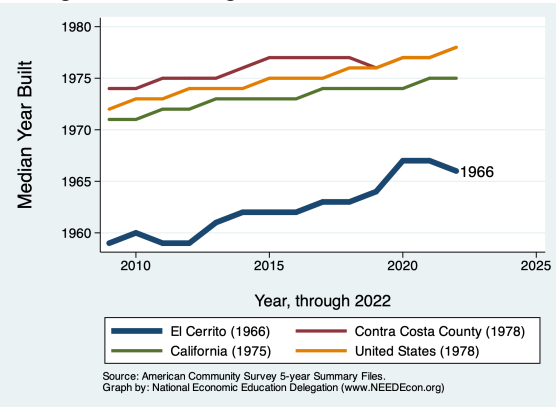
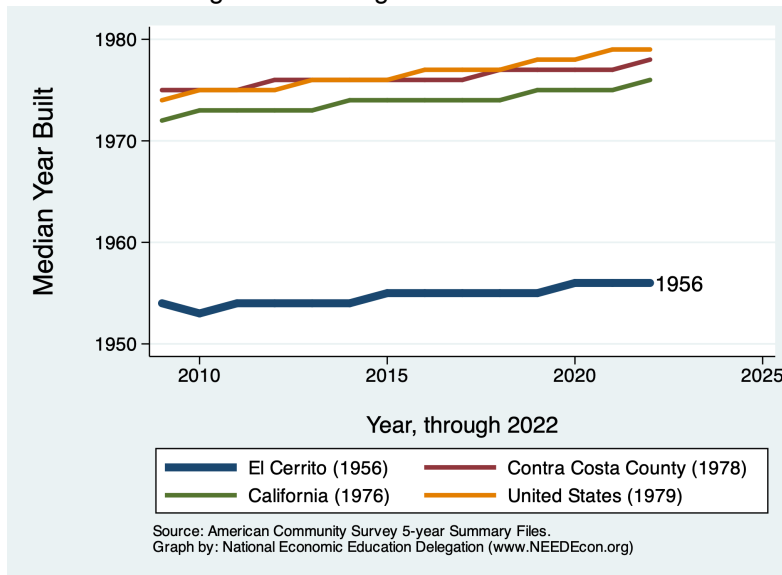


Figure 59: Vintage of All Residences



## 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

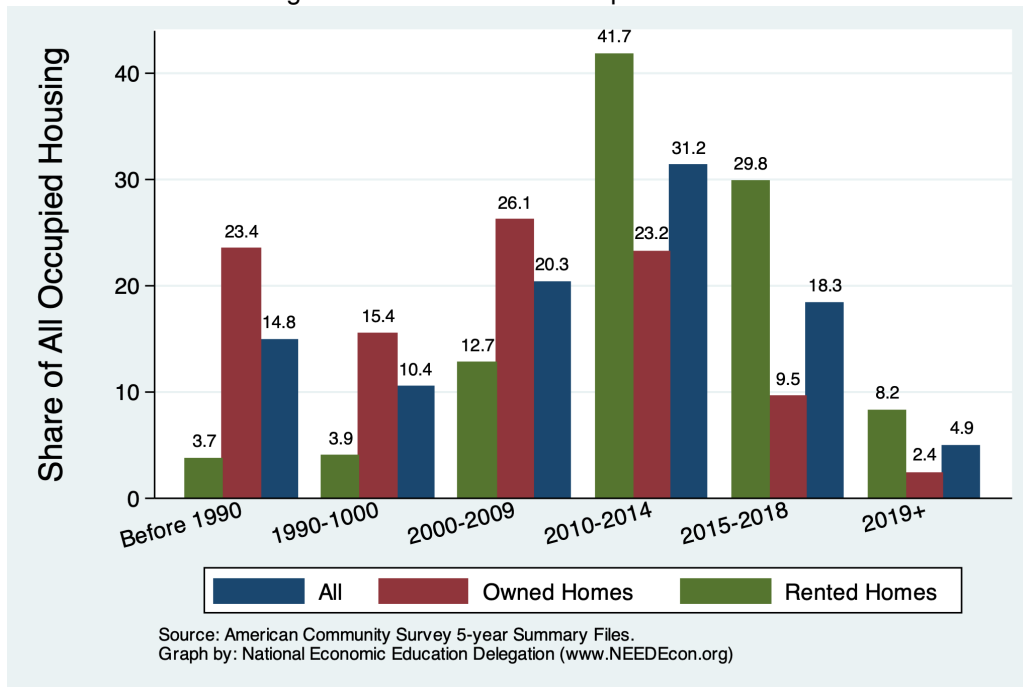


Figure 61: Year Occupied by Current Residents across Regions

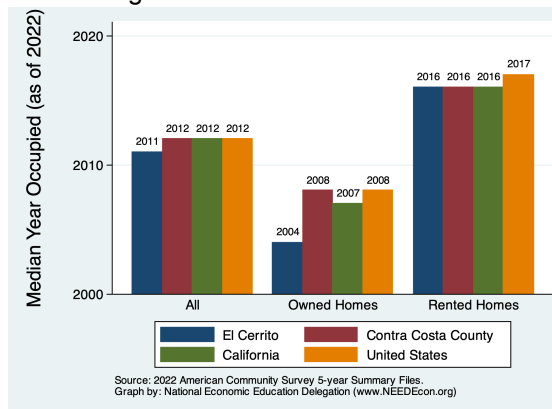


Figure 62: Year Occupied by Current Residents by Tenure

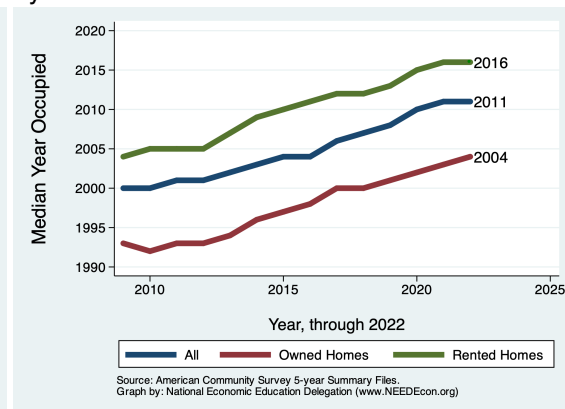


Figure 63: Year Occupied by Current Residents for Owned Housing

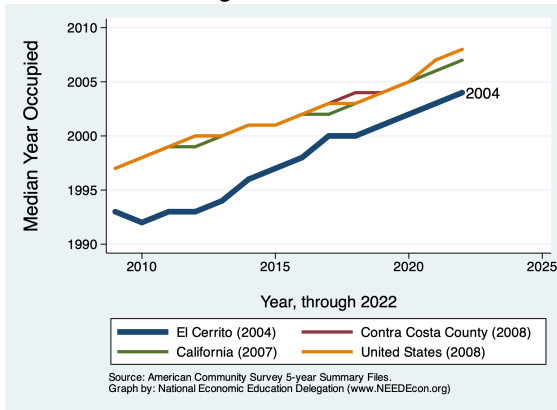


Figure 64: Year Occupied by Current Residents for Rented Housing

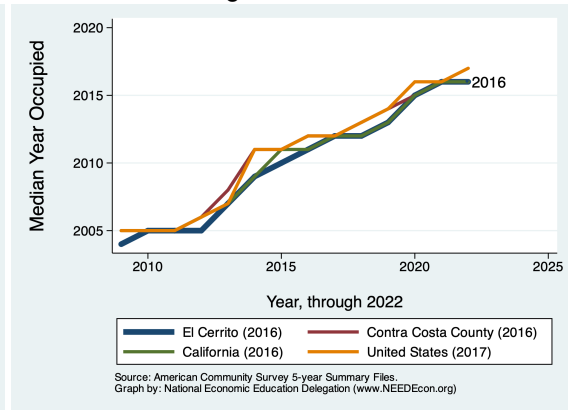
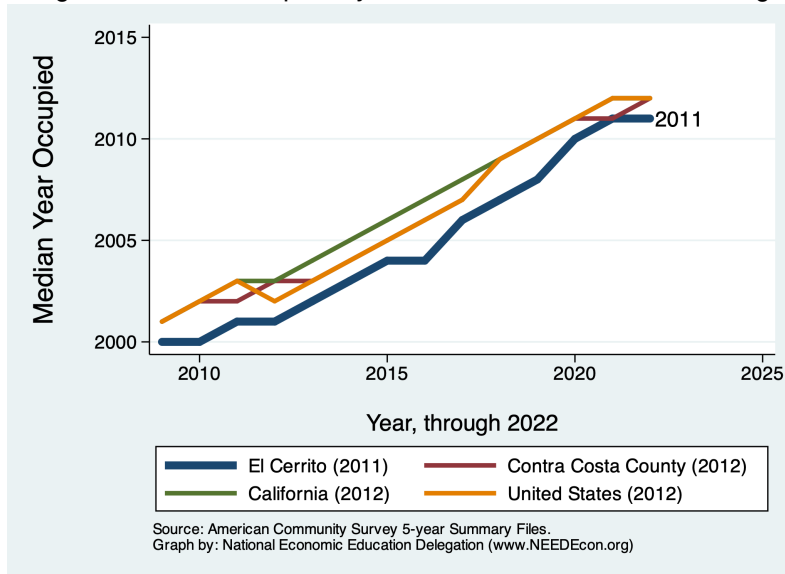


Figure 65: Year Occupied by Current Residents for All Housing



## Residential Permitting

### Definition:

This indicator provides evidence on the number of residential buildings that are permitted for construction each year. Permit data for El Cerrito is compared with data from Contra Costa 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.

### El Cerrito - Ranking Among Comparables

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

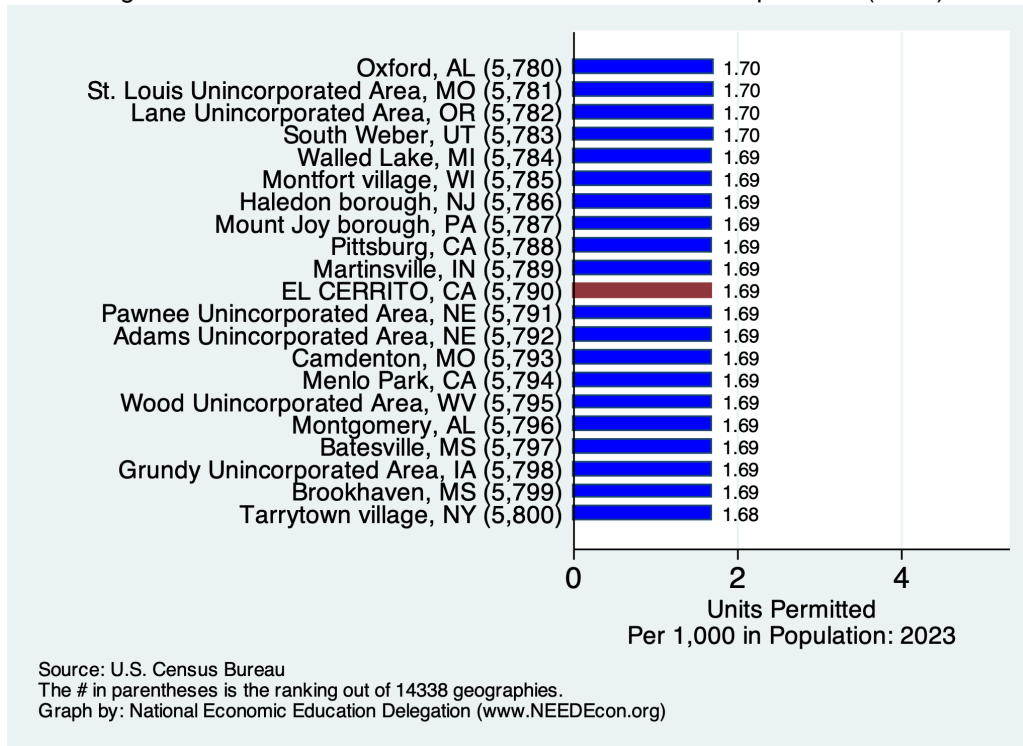
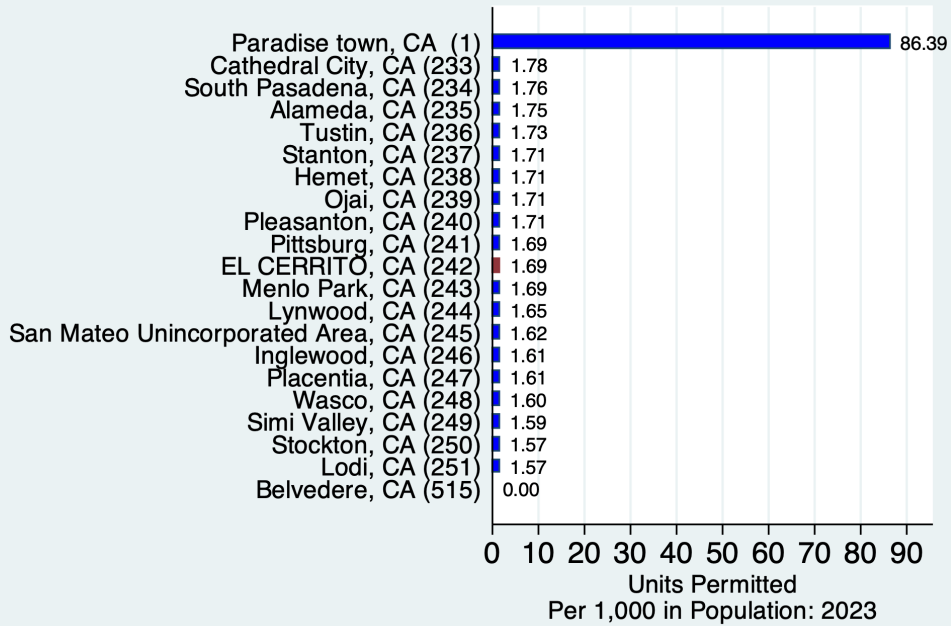


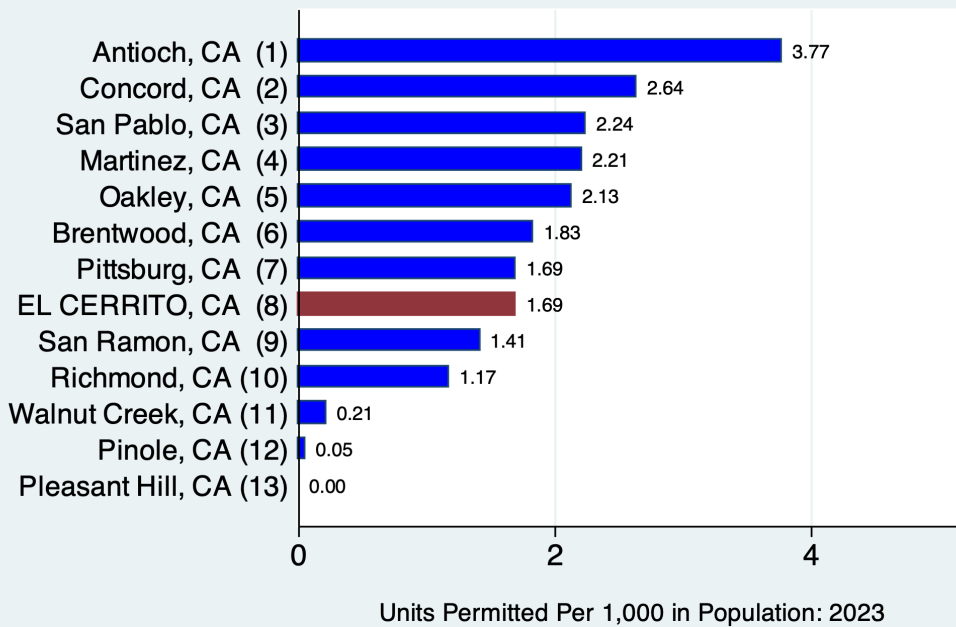


Figure 67: Number of Units Permitted - California Comparables (Rank)



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

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



Source: U.S. Census Bureau,  
 The # in parentheses is the ranking out of 13 geographies.  
 Graph by: National Economic Education Delegation ([www.NEEDecon.org](http://www.NEEDecon.org))

## El Cerrito - Permitting Activity

### Annual Units Permitted - Per Capita in El Cerrito

Figure 69: Units Permitted Each Year

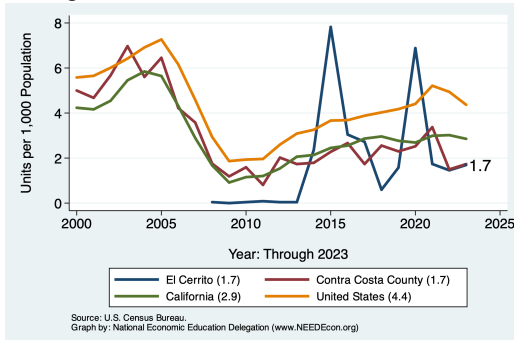
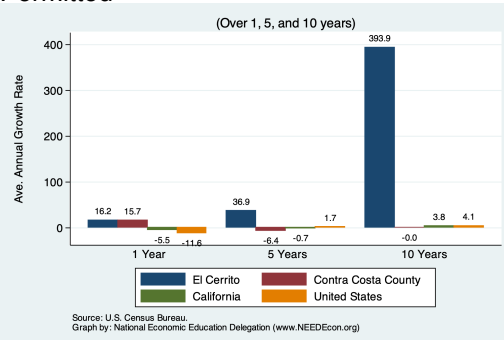


Figure 70: Average Annual Growth in Units Permitted



### Annual Number of Buildings Permitted - Per Capita in El Cerrito

Figure 71: Units Permitted Each Year

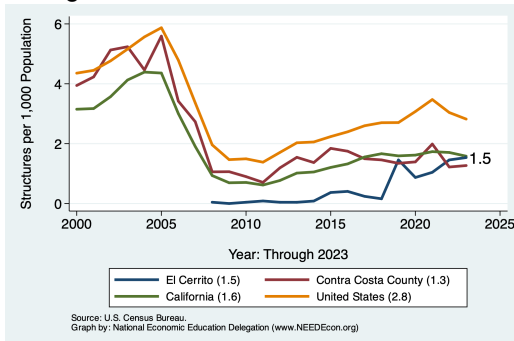
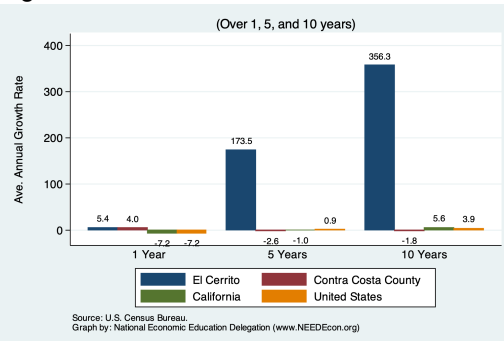


Figure 72: Average Annual Growth in Buildings Permitted



### Annual Value of Property Permitted - Per Capita in El Cerrito

Figure 73: Value Permitted Each Year

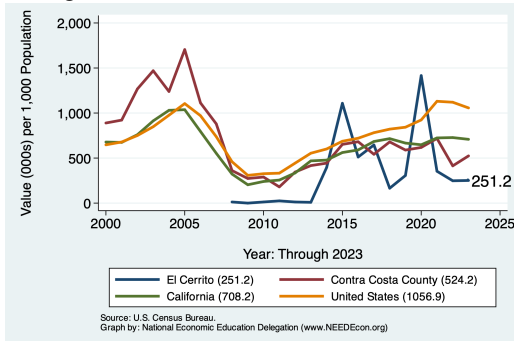
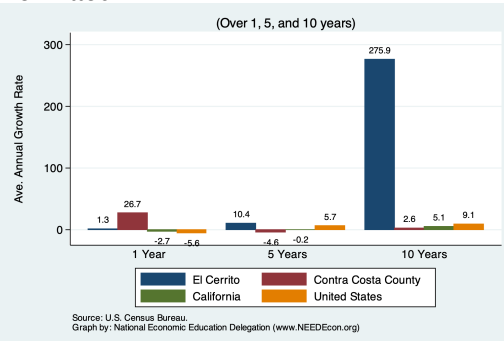


Figure 74: Average Annual Growth in Value Permitted



# 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

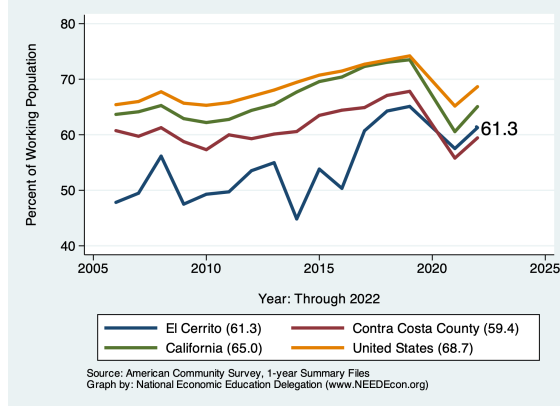


Figure 76: Percent of Workers Commuting by Carpool

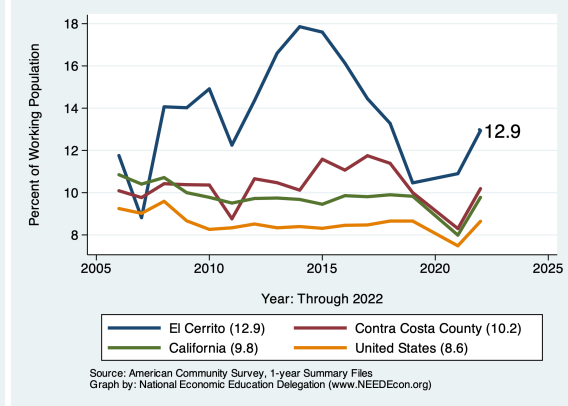


Figure 77: Percent of Workers using Public Transportation

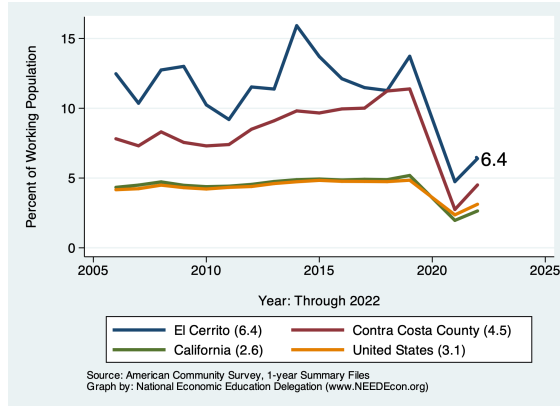
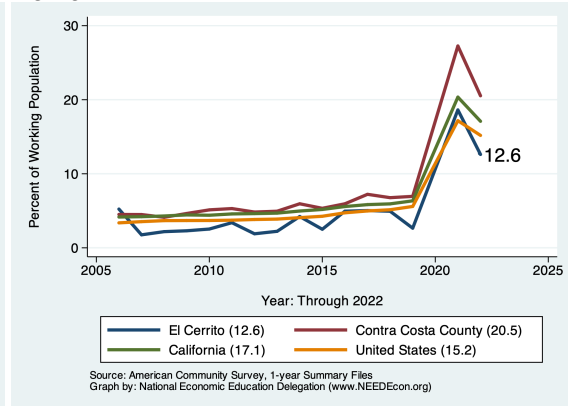


Figure 78: Percent of Workers Who Work From Home



The first table on this page presents data for those who LIVE in El Cerrito. The second provides data on those who work, but do not necessarily live in El Cerrito. 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:	24,782	79.1	16,920	60.9	41,702	74.2	75.3
Drove Alone	19,915	63.5	14,516	52.3	34,431	61.3	65.5
Carpooled:	4,867	15.5	2,404	8.7	7,271	12.9	9.8
In 2-person carpool	3,086	9.8	2,169	7.8	5,255	9.4	7.0
In 3-person carpool	1,647	5.3	235	0.8	1,882	3.3	1.7
In 4-or-more-person carpool	134	0.4	0	0.0	134	0.2	1.2
Public Transportation (excl Taxi):	1,950	6.2	1,644	5.9	3,594	6.4	2.7
Bus or Trolley Bus	800	2.6	398	1.4	1,198	2.1	1.8
Streetcar or Trolley Car	869	2.8	966	3.5	1,835	3.3	0.5
Subway or Elevated	114	0.4	84	0.3	198	0.4	0.2
Railroad	0	0.0	45	0.2	45	0.1	0.1
Ferryboat	167	0.5	151	0.5	318	0.6	0.1
Bicycle	200	0.6	169	0.6	369	0.7	0.7
Walked	328	1.0	231	0.8	559	1.0	2.4
Taxicab, Motorcycle, or other	492	1.6	211	0.8	703	1.3	1.7
Worked at Home	3,589	11.5	3,498	12.6	7,087	12.6	17.2
<b>Total:</b>	<b>31,341</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>22,673</b>	<b>81.6</b>	<b>54,014</b>	<b>96.1</b>	

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:	21,702	77.7	14,403	71.8	36,105	77.1	75.3
Drove Alone	19,233	68.8	12,346	61.6	31,579	67.4	65.5
Carpooled:	2,469	8.8	2,057	10.3	4,526	9.7	9.8
In 2-person carpool	1,274	4.6	1,732	8.6	3,006	6.4	7.0
In 3-person carpool	889	3.2	110	0.5	999	2.1	1.7
In 4-or-more-person carpool	306	1.1	215	1.1	521	1.1	1.2
Public Transportation (excl Taxi):	490	1.8	726	3.6	1,216	2.6	2.6
Bus or Trolley Bus	368	1.3	410	2.0	778	1.7	1.8
Streetcar or Trolley Car	77	0.3	166	0.8	243	0.5	0.5
Subway or Elevated	0	0.0	150	0.7	150	0.3	0.2
Railroad	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.1
Ferryboat	45	0.2	0	0.0	45	0.1	0.1
Bicycle	199	0.7	159	0.8	358	0.8	0.7
Walked	991	3.5	287	1.4	1,278	2.7	2.4
Taxicab, Motorcycle, or other	159	0.6	637	3.2	796	1.7	1.7
Worked at Home	3,589	12.8	3,498	17.4	7,087	15.1	17.2
<b>Total:</b>	<b>27,130</b>	<b>97.1</b>	<b>19,710</b>	<b>98.3</b>	<b>46,840</b>	<b>100.0</b>	

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	453	1.6	227	0.9	680	1.3	2.1
5 to 9 minutes	733	2.6	738	3.0	1,471	2.8	7.8
10 to 14 minutes	2,953	10.4	1,890	7.6	4,843	9.3	12.4
15 to 19 minutes	2,706	9.6	3,221	12.9	5,927	11.3	15.4
20 to 24 minutes	2,770	9.8	2,046	8.2	4,816	9.2	14.8
25 to 29 minutes	573	2.0	1,156	4.6	1,729	3.3	6.4
30 to 34 minutes	5,060	17.9	2,962	11.9	8,022	15.3	15.2
35 to 39 minutes	801	2.8	1,400	5.6	2,201	4.2	2.9
40 to 44 minutes	2,550	9.0	1,376	5.5	3,926	7.5	4.1
45 to 59 minutes	3,533	12.5	807	3.2	4,340	8.3	8.2
60 to 89 minutes	4,962	17.5	2,583	10.3	7,545	14.4	7.2
90 or more minutes	658	2.3	769	3.1	1,427	2.7	3.6
<b>Total:</b>	<b>27,752</b>	<b>98.1</b>	<b>19,175</b>	<b>76.8</b>	<b>46,927</b>	<b>89.7</b>	

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

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

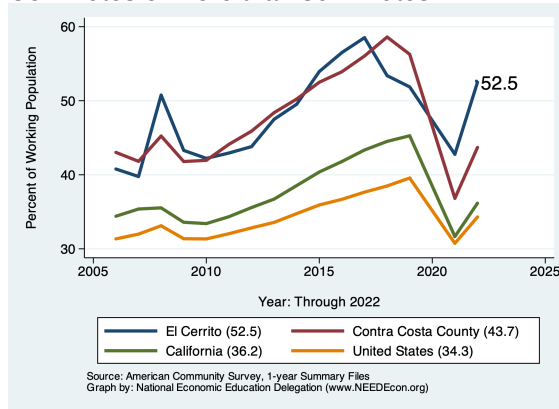


Figure 80: Percent of Employed Population With Commutes of More than 90 Minutes

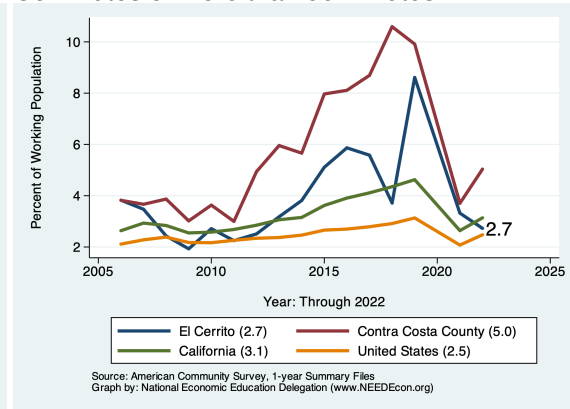
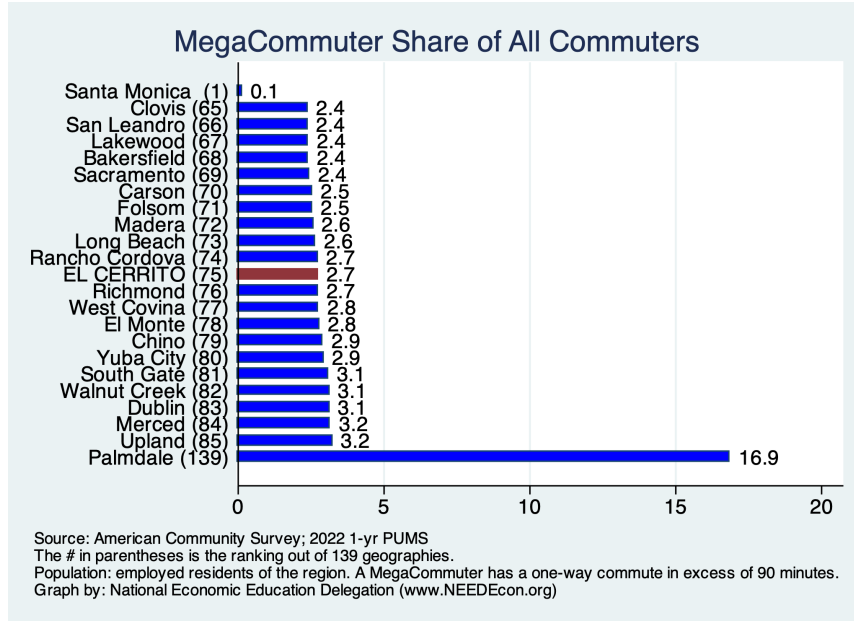


Figure 81: Rank: Share of MegaCommuters Across Similar Geographies



Source: American Community Survey; 2022 1-yr PUMS  
 The # in parentheses is the ranking out of 139 geographies.  
 Population: employed residents of the region. A MegaCommuter has a one-way commute in excess of 90 minutes.  
 Graph by: National Economic Education Delegation (www.NEEDecon.org)

## 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	308	1.2	0	0.0	308	0.7	2.1
5 to 9 minutes	1,139	4.3	1,120	6.0	2,259	5.1	7.8
10 to 14 minutes	2,702	10.3	3,588	19.3	6,290	14.3	12.4
15 to 19 minutes	2,550	9.7	2,308	12.4	4,858	11.0	15.3
20 to 24 minutes	2,387	9.1	2,856	15.4	5,243	11.9	14.8
25 to 29 minutes	1,402	5.3	676	3.6	2,078	4.7	6.4
30 to 34 minutes	4,509	17.1	1,644	8.9	6,153	14.0	15.2
35 to 39 minutes	1,026	3.9	444	2.4	1,470	3.3	2.9
40 to 44 minutes	880	3.3	350	1.9	1,230	2.8	4.1
45 to 59 minutes	2,808	10.7	1,747	9.4	4,555	10.3	8.2
60 to 89 minutes	3,292	12.5	1,051	5.7	4,343	9.9	7.2
90 or more minutes	538	2.0	428	2.3	966	2.2	3.6
<b>Total:</b>	<b>23,541</b>	<b>89.4</b>	<b>16,212</b>	<b>87.4</b>	<b>39,753</b>	<b>90.2</b>	

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

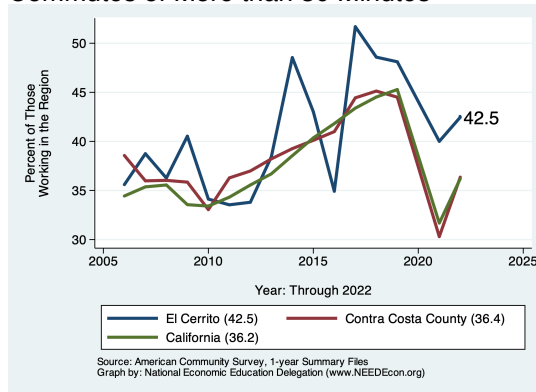


Figure 83: Percent of Local Employees With Commutes of More than 90 Minutes

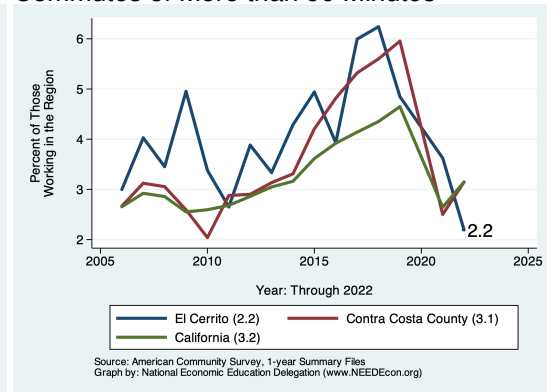
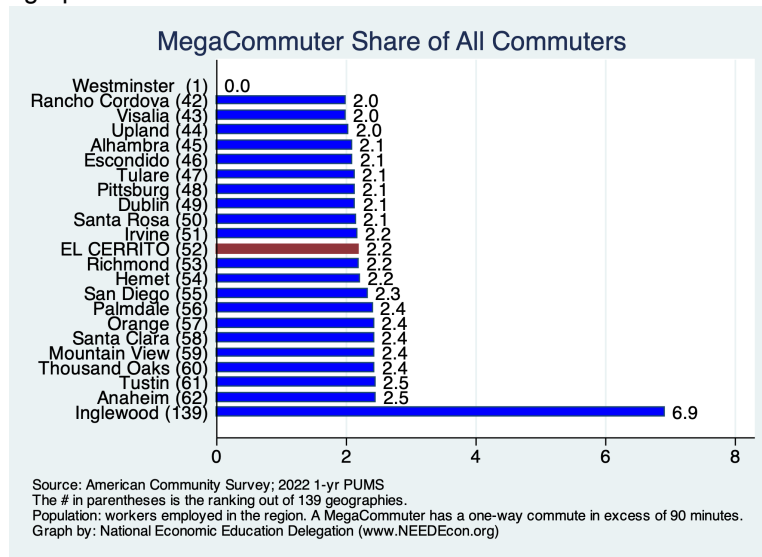


Figure 84: Rank: Share of MegaCommuters Across Similar Geographies



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

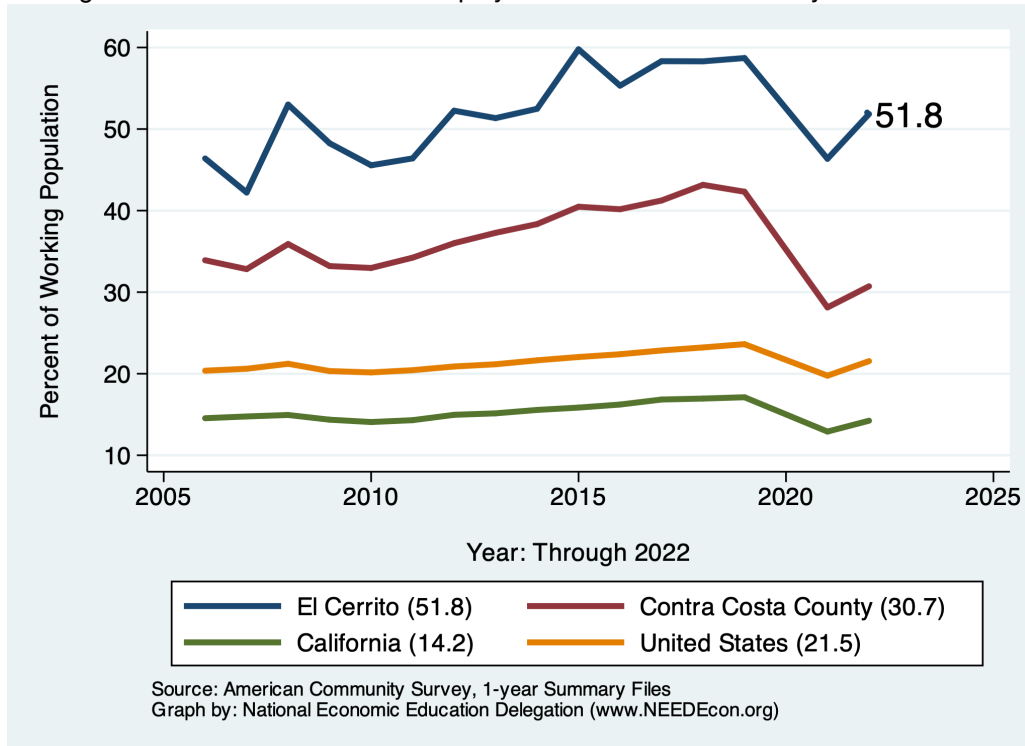
This section provides evidence on where workers living in El Cerrito work. As evidenced in the first table, some of El Cerrito’s employed workers work in the City, but many do not. The first table and graph pair provide evidence at the county level while the second provide evidence with regard to working outside of the El Cerrito 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:	31,341	100.0	22,636	81.5	53,977	96.1	99.6
Worked in county of residence	13,745	43.9	11,104	40.0	24,849	44.2	85.3
worked outside of county of residence	17,596	56.1	11,532	41.5	29,128	51.8	14.3
Worked outside state of residence	0	0.0	37	0.1	37	0.1	0.4
<b>Total:</b>	31,341	100.0	22,673	81.6	54,014	96.1	

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

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

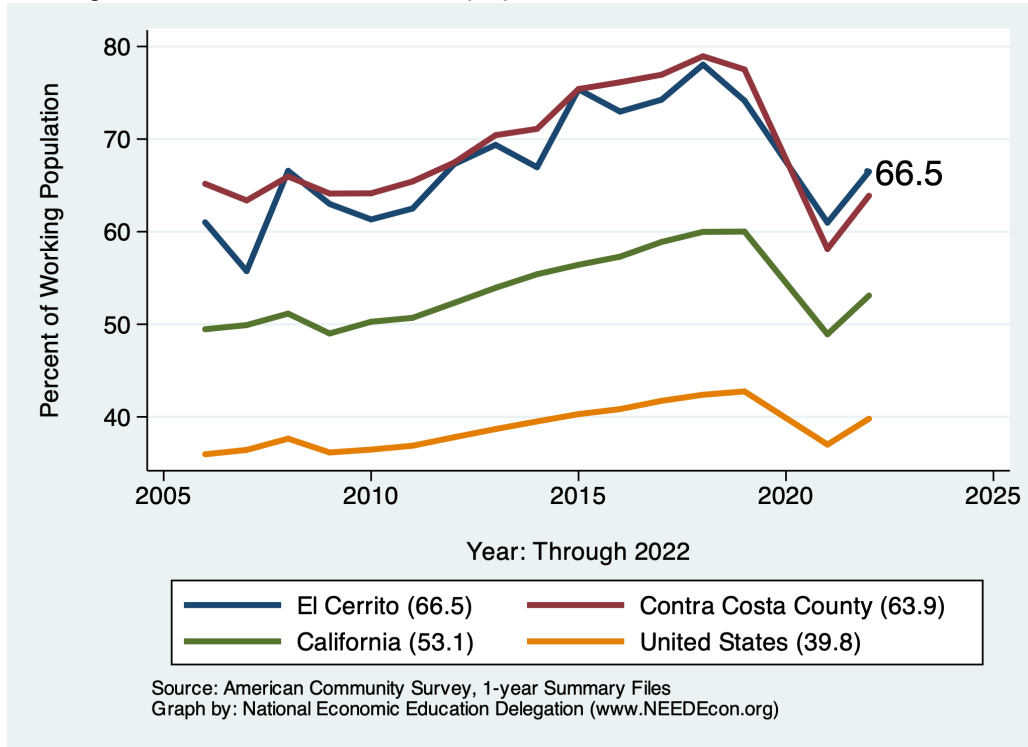


**Table 11. SEX OF WORKERS BY PLACE OF WORK—PLACE LEVEL**

Place of Work	Male		Female		All Workers		All of CA (%)
	#	(%)	#	(%)	#	(%)	
Living in a place:	31,341	100.0	22,673	81.6	54,014	96.1	95.8
Worked in place of residence	8,871	28.3	7,784	28.0	16,655	29.6	42.3
Worked outside place of residence	22,470	71.7	14,889	53.6	37,359	66.5	53.4
Not living in a place	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	4.2
<b>Total:</b>	31,341	100.0	22,673	81.6	54,014	96.1	

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	California	Ratio	United States	
	Median	Median		Median	Ratio
Car, truck, or van - drove alone	44,159	48,335	95.6	45,677	94.1
Car, truck, or van - carpooled	36,357	35,926	105.9	34,518	102.5
Public transportation (excluding taxicab)	41,850	34,625	126.4	41,443	98.3
Walked	52,064	30,552	178.3	27,247	186.0
Taxicab, motorcycle, bicycle, or other means	51,493	40,631	132.6	36,218	138.4
Worked from home	100,160	79,738	131.4	69,180	141.0
<b>Total:</b>	47,621	49,818	95.6	46,365	102.7

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	8,863	39.5	13,332	63.3	8,572	54.9	35,356	62.9	68.4
Car, Truck, or Van: Carpooled	2,330	10.4	1,963	9.3	1,273	8.2	6,414	11.4	9.5
Public Transportation (excl Taxi)	1,173	5.2	1,969	9.4	1,911	12.2	5,564	9.9	3.6
Walked	390	1.7	295	1.4	70	0.4	862	1.5	2.4
Taxicab, Motorcycle, or other	347	1.5	517	2.5	304	1.9	1,339	2.4	2.4
Worked at Home	1,280	5.7	1,619	7.7	2,865	18.4	6,214	11.1	13.6
<b>Total:</b>	14,383	64.1	19,695	93.6	14,995	96.1	55,749	99.3	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	6,380	47.3	10,933	66.2	11,943	69.8	32,208	63.7	68.5
Car, Truck, or Van: Carpooled	1,213	9.0	1,586	9.6	1,517	8.9	4,996	9.9	9.5
Public Transportation (excl Taxi)	373	2.8	415	2.5	176	1.0	1,085	2.1	3.6
Walked	270	2.0	205	1.2	256	1.5	881	1.7	2.4
Taxicab, Motorcycle, or other	442	3.3	343	2.1	358	2.1	1,212	2.4	2.4
Worked at Home	1,280	9.5	1,619	9.8	2,865	16.7	6,214	12.3	13.6
<b>Total:</b>	9,958	73.8	15,101	91.4	17,115		46,596	92.2	

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	2,159	46.7	2,273	40.4	30,924	62.2	35,356	62.9	68.7
Car, Truck, or Van: Carpooled	470	10.2	508	9.0	5,452	11.0	6,430	11.4	9.5
Public Transportation (excl Taxi)	280	6.1	294	5.2	4,990	10.0	5,564	9.9	3.6
Walked	102	2.2	152	2.7	608	1.2	862	1.5	2.1
Taxicab, Motorcycle, or other	82	1.8	28	0.5	1,229	2.5	1,339	2.4	2.4
Worked at Home	205	4.4	190	3.4	5,827	11.7	6,222	11.1	13.6
<b>Total:</b>	<b>3,298</b>	<b>71.3</b>	<b>3,445</b>	<b>61.3</b>	<b>49,030</b>	<b>98.7</b>	<b>55,773</b>	<b>99.3</b>	

Source: 2022 5-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	1,094	40.1	1,295	49.6	29,794	69.8	32,183	69.2	68.7
Car, Truck, or Van: Carpooled	216	7.9	355	13.6	4,425	10.4	4,996	10.7	9.5
Public Transportation (excl Taxi)	56	2.1	126	4.8	876	2.1	1,058	2.3	3.6
Walked	49	1.8	89	3.4	723	1.7	861	1.9	2.1
Taxicab, Motorcycle, or other	114	4.2	38	1.5	1,055	2.5	1,207	2.6	2.4
Worked at Home	205	7.5	190	7.3	5,827	13.6	6,222	13.4	13.6
<b>Total:</b>	<b>1,734</b>	<b>63.6</b>	<b>2,093</b>	<b>80.2</b>	<b>42,700</b>		<b>46,527</b>		

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.

# 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 El Cerrito is a net recipient (migration inflows) or donor (mi-

gration outflows) of population is very important 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

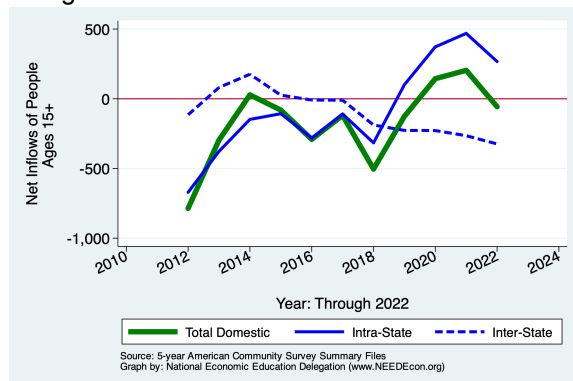


Table 17: Migration by Income

Category	Population	Net Inflows				
		All Migration	Same State			From Abroad
			W/in County	Between Counties	Across States	
No income	2,569	136	92	25	-31	50
With income	19,529	34	-21	171	-293	177
\$1 to \$9,999 or less	1,868	-61	-32	-27	-21	19
\$10,000 to \$14,999	970	-156	11	-14	-168	15
\$15,000 to \$24,999	1,821	123	38	62	0	23
\$25,000 to \$34,999	1,842	42	21	1	-7	27
\$35,000 to \$49,999	2,001	-42	-35	-40	5	28
\$50,000 to \$64,999	1,921	-9	-60	87	-39	3
\$65,000 to \$74,999	1,062	-25	3	2	-30	0
\$75,000 or more	8,044	162	33	100	-33	62
<b>All:</b>	22,098	170	71	196	-324	227

Source: 2022 5-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

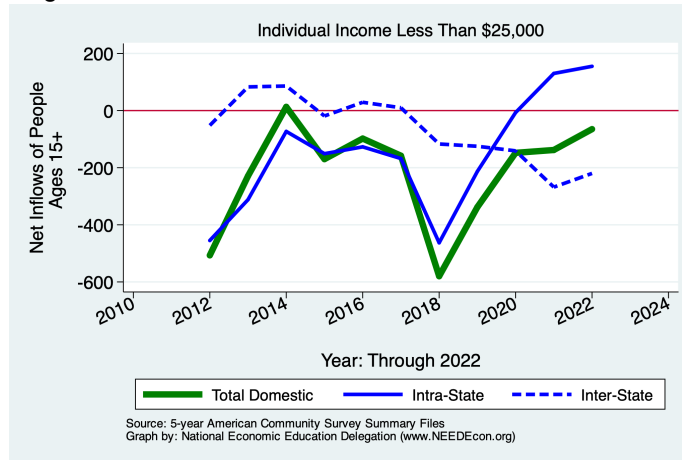


Figure 89: Overall Movements of Middle Income Residents

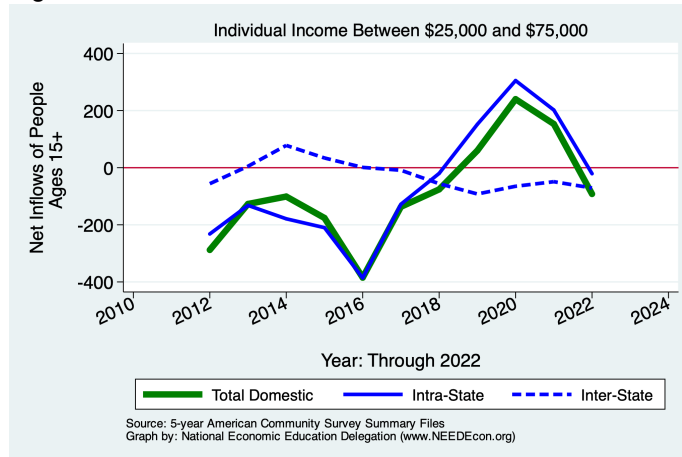
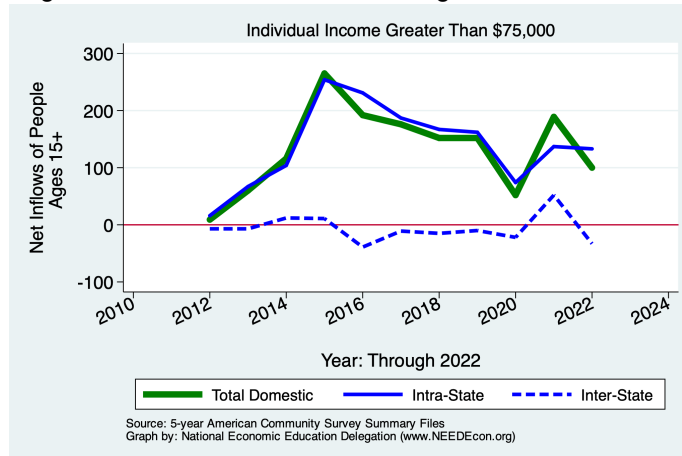


Figure 90: Overall Movements of High Income Residents



## Demographics of Migration Flows

**Table 18: Migration by Marital Status**

Category	Population	Net Inflows				
		All Migration	Same State			From Abroad
			W/in County	Between Counties	Across States	
Never married	7,457	361	227	147	-134	121
Now married, except separated	11,394	-99	-91	124	-211	79
Divorced	1,915	-111	-18	-105	5	7
Separated	235	-23	-33	7	3	0
Widowed	1,097	42	-14	23	13	20
<b>Total:</b>	22,098	170	71	196	-324	227

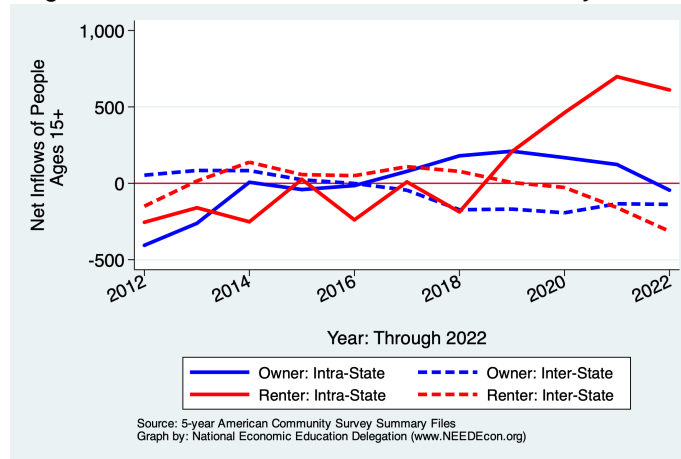
Source: 2022 5-year American Community Survey, Summary File

**Table 19: Migration by Tenure**

Category	Population	Net Inflows				
		All Migration	Same State			From Abroad
			W/in County	Between Counties	Across States	
Householder lived in owner-occupied housing units	14,169	-152	-211	166	-138	31
Householder lived in renter-occupied housing units	11,296	493	415	196	-314	196
<b>Total:</b>	25,465	341	204	362	-452	227

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

**Figure 91: Domestic Movements of Residents by Tenure**



**Table 20: Migration by Age**

Category	Population	Net Inflows					
		All Migration	Same State			Across States	From Abroad
			W/in County	Between Counties			
1 to 4 years	1,088	121	42	119	-53	13	
5 to 17 years	3,120	-88	112	-90	-110	0	
18 and 19 years	299	-275	0	-72	-203	0	
20 to 24 years	1,416	65	146	-152	25	46	
25 to 29 years	1,634	272	-13	188	68	29	
30 to 34 years	1,583	11	-76	39	3	45	
35 to 39 years	2,430	115	3	189	-88	11	
40 to 44 years	2,307	76	49	91	-64	0	
45 to 49 years	1,948	-56	-12	-17	-27	0	
50 to 54 years	1,503	74	-4	17	5	56	
55 to 59 years	1,389	9	31	-49	27	0	
60 to 64 years	1,770	-24	-22	7	-9	0	
65 to 69 years	1,617	-84	-35	-24	-53	28	
70 to 74 years	1,393	-9	0	-12	3	0	
75 years and over	2,134	5	-24	28	-11	12	
<b>Total Population:</b>	25,631	212	197	262	-487	240	

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

**Table 21: Migration by Educational Attainment**

Category	Population	Net Inflows					
		All Migration	Same State			Across States	From Abroad
			W/in County	Between Counties			
Less than high school graduate	945	59	23	31	0	5	
High school graduate (includes equiv)	2,245	-39	-104	72	-15	8	
Some college or assoc. degree	3,589	-13	22	-1	-52	18	
Bachelor's degree	6,608	180	-39	133	38	48	
Graduate or professional degree	6,321	202	-5	222	-117	102	
<b>Total:</b>	19,708	389	-103	457	-146	181	

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

**Table 22: Median Income of Migration Flows**

Flow	In-Migration	Out-Migration
Same House 1 Year Ago	60,990	60,990
Moved Within Same County	64,813	61,550
Moved to Different County, Same State	64,036	58,600
Moved Between States	45,486	23,864
<b>Total Population:</b>	61,214	60,064

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

**Table 23: Median Age of Migration Flows**

Flow	In-Migration	Out-Migration
Same House 1 Year Ago	45.2	45.2
Moved Within Same County	36.1	38.3
Moved to Different County, Same State	34.7	31.9
Moved Between States	28.7	26.2
Moved from Abroad	31.9	
<b>Total Population:</b>	42.1	42.4

Source: 2022 5-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/>

U.S. Census Bureau. Building Permits Data, updated annually in February. <https://www.census.gov/construction/bps/current.html>

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State of California, Department of Finance, E-2. California County Population Estimates and Components of Change by Year, July 1, 2010-2021. Sacramento, California, December. <https://dof.ca.gov/forecasting/demographics/>

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