



Social Environment Issues

Community Goals:

By the Year 2004, more residents will be engaged in community involvement to make Santa Cruz County a better place to live.

Community Hero: Selby Drake, *Suicide Prevention Center Volunteers*

Community Heroes: Phil Reader, *Community Volunteer*

By the Year 2004, racism and discrimination will be reduced.

Community Hero: Luis Alejo, *CRLA / Watsonville Schools*

By the Year 2004, children in Santa Cruz County will have access to affordable, high quality child care and after school/summer enrichment and recreation opportunities.

Community Hero: Elnora Lewis, *Community Volunteer*

A Summary of Santa Cruz County's Social Environment, 2004



Over the past ten years, CAP has highlighted Santa Cruz County's changing social environment. The social environment of Santa Cruz County cannot be discussed without taking into account the impact of state and national economic changes. In the recent past, the County has seen the erosion of the safety net for those who are the working poor, as well as immigrant populations of the County. Health and human services, whether community-based organizations or local government agencies, are also feeling the effects from the cancellation of the utility tax in the March 2002 election.

The last ten years of CAP clearly show how much County residents enjoy living in the area. When asked what contributes most to their quality of life, respondents have consistently identified the "scenery / geography / climate" as the top response. Other common responses were the "friendly people," "social climate," "slow pace" and "quiet / peaceful" nature of the County.

Unfortunately, however, CAP has also highlighted consistent irritants that affect residents' enjoyment of the County. When asked what

detracts most from their quality of life, two common responses across all ten years are "traffic" and "cost of living / housing." Recognizing that low-income residents struggle to achieve day-to-day survival, residents of Santa Cruz County continue to be good stewards in an effort to fill the gap in resources. At least 59% of residents have regularly contributed money to charitable organizations, and at least one-third regularly do volunteer work in the community.

The percentage of respondents who feel that they have been discriminated against has decreased from 1996 to 2003. In 1996, 28.2% of residents felt discriminated against in the County and in 2003, 18.4% indicated the same. Ethnicity has consistently been cited as the main cause of discrimination

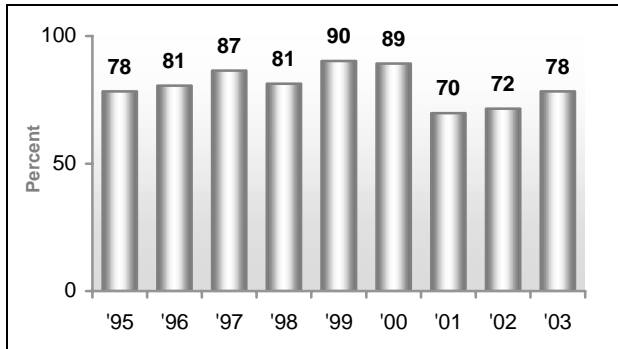
except in 1995 when a greater percentage of respondents felt they had been discriminated against because of their gender. In the past few years, the percentages of

residents who felt discriminated against due to socioeconomic status and language have increased. The percentage of respondents who think that racism is a problem locally has also decreased over the past ten years from 59.1% in 1995 to 47.3% in 2003. Further, though the number of reported hate crimes has vacillated from 1995 to 2003, there was an overall decrease in Santa Cruz County from 12 cases in 1995 to 9 cases in 2003.



Most respondents in 2003 (78.3%) felt that their child had enough activities after school and on weekends, which is exactly the same as in 1995.

After School and Weekend Activities



✓ Respondents reporting that their child had enough activities after school and on weekends.

In times of economic hardship, many people go without basic needs, and over the years, the percentage of residents going without has steadily increased. In 1995, 9.7% of respondents said they had gone without necessities such as food, clothing, and healthcare in any given month; in 2003, that percentage increased to 18.6%. In 2003, Latino respondents were more than twice as likely to indicate that they went without basic needs than Caucasian respondents (32.8% vs. 13.9%). When asked what basic needs respondents were lacking, most respondents have consistently indicated that they went

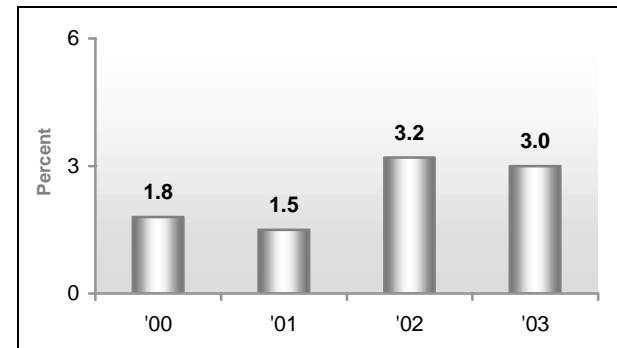


without health care, and many others indicated that they were going without food or had limited their food choices. Unfortunately, many residents of Santa Cruz County continue to struggle.

Several supports are available to residents who lack basic needs such as food. For example, over the past ten years, the School Lunch Program has provided free or reduced cost lunches to a little over one-third of the students in the County. The percentage of County students receiving these meals has consistently been lower than the state. Similarly, the number of people served by the Food Bank increased by 63.6% from 1996 to 2003.

Since affordable housing is cited as a huge challenge in Santa Cruz County, and a large number of residents have gone without their basic needs, it is not surprising that the percentage of residents who have been homeless in the past year has increased from 1.8% in 2000 to 3.0% in 2003.

Homelessness



✓ Respondents who indicated that they have been without a home locally in the last year.

Santa Cruz County residents are generally engaged in the political process. Since the June 1994 Primary election, larger percentages of County registered voters have voted compared with the state. Fifty-six percent of residents turned out for the March 2004 Primary election compared with 44.3% of California voters.

Voting

Voter registration and turnout reflect people's sense of ownership and responsibility for their community.



Santa Cruz County Voter Registration and Turnout

Election	Registration	Turnout	% County Turnout	% State Turnout
June 1994 Primary	132,139	58,040	43.9	35.1
November 1994 General	140,960	93,644	66.4	60.5
December 1995 Primary	33,089	10,513	31.8	NA
March 1996 Primary	133,652	65,981	49.4	41.9
November 1996 General	148,663	103,922	70.0	52.6
June 1998 Primary	130,197	66,826	51.3	42.6
November 1998 General	137,955	86,634	62.8	57.6
March 2000 Primary	134,997	79,746	59.1	53.9
November 2000 General	145,214	78,878	63.2	51.9
March 2002 Primary	127,582	62,317	48.8	34.6
November 2002 General	135,554	80,023	59.0	50.6
September 2003 Special Election	129,901	94,759	73.0	61.2
March 2004 Primary	132,307	74,671	56.4	44.3

Source: California Secretary of State, Department of Elections, 2004.

Note: The December 1995 Primary was a 15th Congressional District Special Vacancy Primary Election.

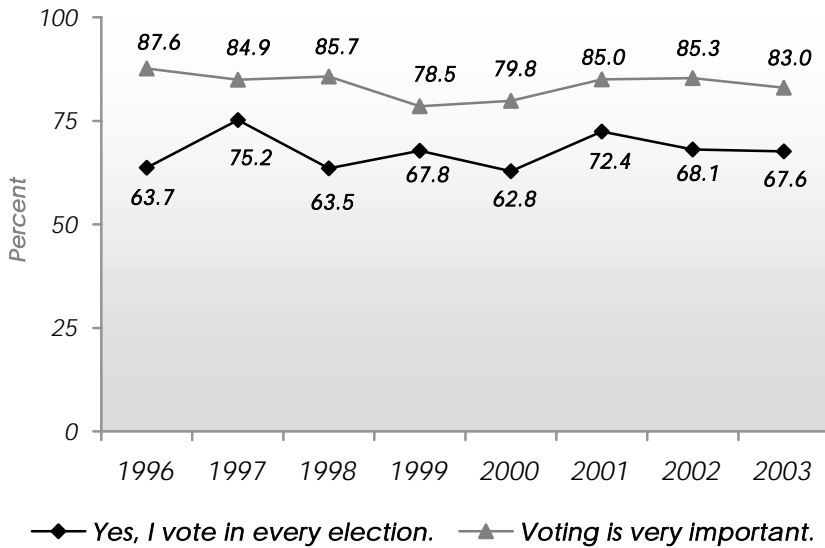
QUALITY OF LIFE INDICATOR 93

 Voting



Do you vote in every election?

In your opinion, how important is voting?



Total respondents	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
Do you vote in every election?	499	509	513	559	658	706	684	703
In your opinion, how important is voting?	484	502	433	557	652	706	684	703

Note: See appendix for results of statistical testing for these questions.

If you do not vote in every election, why not? (selected responses)

Response	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
Not a citizen	49.4	27.6	42.3	32.0	28.2	22.9	39.3	45.2	35.0
Not registered / Not registered locally	7.4	12.5	3.1	-	3.4	22.1	10.3	12.1	10.7
Apathy / Lack of interest / Laziness	-	-	-	6.7	5.1	7.9	7.5	6.4	10.1
Voting has no effect	-	-	-	-	1.7	5.8	6.0	3.5	8.1
No time	13.5	9.2	6.2	15.2	15.8	12.1	5.6	6.3	10.1
Not informed with issues	7.4	20.4	4.1	4.5	10.7	12.5	4.3	6.9	5.8
Don't want to vote	-	-	13.4	19.7	14.7	4.6	2.0	2.9	3.6
Total Respondents	81	152	97	178	177	240	195	213	226

Source: Santa Cruz County Community Assessment Project, Telephone Survey, 2003.

 **New data not available**

Voting

Community Profile

Percent of respondents who said “Yes” to: “Do you vote in every election?”

By Ethnicity	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	*2003	2003 N
Caucasian	74.1	76.6	71.9	81.6	78.9	78.3	491
Latino	22.8	31.5	38.0	43.5	39.5	38.0	158

By Region	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	*2003	2003 N
North County	67.0	69.2	66.5	73.6	70.3	73.6	236
South County	58.5	60.7	50.3	65.8	61.8	55.7	242
San Lorenzo Valley	66.0	75.0	73.5	83.4	77.6	78.7	225

By Age	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	*2003	2003 N
18-24	NA	41.5	39.1	37.6	37.3	58.4	109
25-44	NA	61.3	55.0	61.4	52.5	51.0	229
45-64	NA	77.5	74.5	80.1	80.2	76.5	252
65 and older	NA	90.1	85.1	91.7	89.2	90.5	113

By Gender	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	*2003	2003 N
Male	NA	69.5	65.3	72.2	66.9	60.3	348
Female	NA	68.0	61.0	72.5	69.3	74.8	355

By Income	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	*2003	2003 N
\$34,999 per year or less	NA	49.7	47.7	59.7	53.7	56.7	311
\$35,000 - \$65,499 per year	NA	75.8	70.7	81.7	74.6	73.4	164
\$65,500 and greater	NA	81.6	78.6	83.1	80.5	79.8	177

Source: Santa Cruz County Community Assessment Project, *Telephone Survey*, 2003.

* Indicates statistically significant survey responses when reporting differences between sub-groups for the 2003 data. Absence of this symbol indicates no statistical significance difference between sub-groups for the 2003 data.

 **New data not available**

Significance Testing

Ethnicity: *Caucasians* were significantly more likely to respond “Yes” than were *Latinos*.

Region: Residents of the *San Lorenzo Valley* were significantly more likely to respond “Yes” than were residents of the *South County*; residents of the *North County* were significantly more likely to respond “Yes” than were residents of the *South County*.

Gender: *Females* were significantly more likely to respond “Yes” than were *males*.

Age: Those *65 and older* were significantly more likely to respond “Yes” than were *18-24 year olds*, *25-44 year olds*, and *45-64 year olds*; *45-64 year olds* were significantly more likely to respond “Yes” than were *18-24 year olds* or *25-44 year olds*

Income: Those earning *\$35,000 through \$65,499* were significantly more likely to respond “Yes” than were those earning *\$34,999 or less*; those earning *\$65,500 or more* were significantly more likely to respond “Yes” than were those earning *\$34,999 or less*.

QUALITY OF LIFE INDICATOR 93

 Voting

 Community Profile

Percent of respondents who think voting is “Very important.”

By Ethnicity	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2003 N
Caucasian	86.7	79.2	81.7	85.3	86.0	83.5	490
Latino	83.7	78.2	79.9	84.8	89.2	82.7	158

By Region	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2003 N
North County	86.6	78.8	77.7	84.2	82.5	82.1	235
South County	87.2	77.8	82.5	86.4	88.2	86.1	242
San Lorenzo Valley	80.0	78.3	82.3	83.8	87.2	79.4	224

By Age	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2003 N
18-24	NA	67.5	76.9	67.0	69.3	83.1	109
25-44	NA	76.0	75.9	83.6	82.5	80.1	229
45-64	NA	80.3	81.2	87.7	88.3	83.7	252
65 and older	NA	91.4	91.5	90.9	92.9	88.3	111

By Gender	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	*2003	2003 N
Male	NA	76.4	77.5	81.9	82.8	76.9	348
Female	NA	79.6	81.2	88.0	87.7	89.3	355

By Income	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2003 N
\$34,999 per year or less	NA	73.5	74.6	81.4	84.3	81.1	309
\$35,000 - \$65,499	NA	79.8	81.2	88.8	88.5	84.1	163
\$65,500 and greater	NA	80.9	88.0	87.6	85.6	83.7	177

Source: Santa Cruz County Community Assessment Project, *Telephone Survey*, 2003.

* Indicates statistically significant survey responses when reporting differences between sub-groups for the 2003 data. Absence of this symbol indicates no statistical significance difference between sub-groups for the 2003 data.

 **New data not available**

Significance Testing

Gender: *Females* were significantly more likely to respond “Very important” than were *males*.

☎ Racism and Discrimination

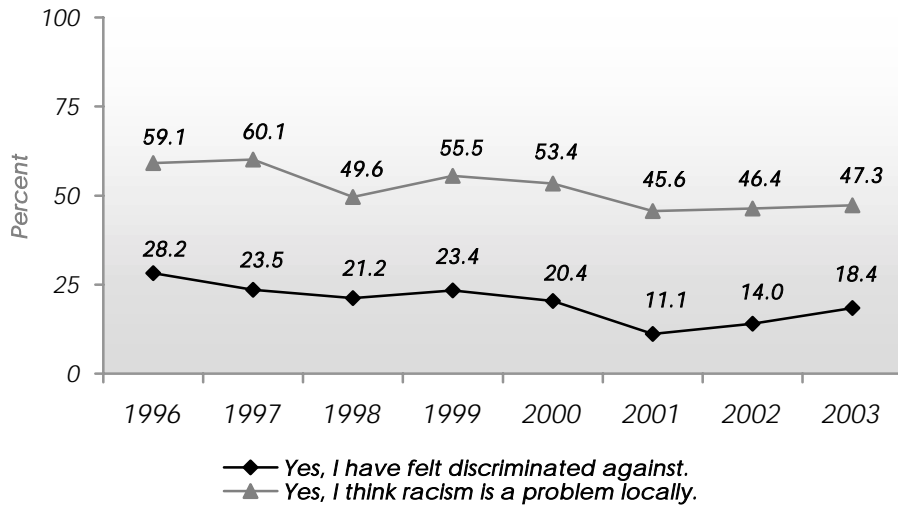


These Indicators measure perceptions of discrimination in the community.

Do you think racism is a problem locally?

Have you ever felt discriminated against in Santa Cruz County in the last three years?

✎ If you have felt discriminated against in Santa Cruz County in the last three years, what was the reason? (Selected responses)



Response	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
Ethnicity / Race	21.2	34.8	29.1	44.4	50.4	42.9	27.2	35.0	33.9
Socio-economic status	-	-	-	3.0	3.1	5.3	18.0	17.2	12.9
Language	2.1	6.7	5.2	12.6	11.5	18.8	12.5	9.5	16.4
White race / Non-Hispanic	-	-	-	-	13.0	10.5	12.4	8.8	9.9
Gender	31.1	15.7	17.2	11.9	24.4	22.6	9.7	13.3	6.0

Total Respondents	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
Do you think racism is a problem locally?	499	506	514	559	657	701	682	696
Have you ever felt discriminated against in Santa Cruz County in the last three years?	493	507	513	559	652	705	682	701

Source: Santa Cruz County Community Assessment Project, Telephone Survey, 2003.

Note: See appendix for results of statistical testing for these questions.

Year 2003: 129 respondents offering 163 responses.

New data not available

QUALITY OF LIFE INDICATOR 94

 Racism

 Community Profile

Percent of respondents who said “Yes” to: “Do you think racism is a problem locally?”

By Ethnicity	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	*2003	2003 N
Caucasian	47.2	51.1	49.3	40.3	42.5	42.2	485
Latino	60.9	74.2	71.1	56.0	56.6	64.1	157

By Region	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	*2003	2003 N
North County	45.3	51.6	53.5	43.4	45.2	46.5	233
South County	60.0	72.3	60.0	52.2	50.1	52.2	239
San Lorenzo Valley	38.3	30.0	41.1	38.3	40.0	37.0	225

By Age	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2003 N
18-24	NA	56.1	59.8	64.0	54.6	52.5	109
25-44	NA	55.3	56.5	41.4	46.9	51.0	228
45-64	NA	58.4	50.3	44.5	45.8	49.3	246
65 and older	NA	49.4	44.7	44.1	43.5	30.8	113

By Gender	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2003 N
Male	NA	54.9	50.0	39.8	44.1	46.9	345
Female	NA	55.4	56.1	51.4	48.7	47.8	351

By Income	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	*2003	2003 N
\$34,999 per year or less	NA	66.9	58.1	42.6	49.4	57.9	308
\$35,000 - \$65,499	NA	53.4	48.1	52.5	51.1	46.3	162
\$65,500 and greater	NA	48.7	50.9	40.2	37.3	33.7	173

Source: Santa Cruz County Community Assessment Project, *Telephone Survey*, 2003.

* Indicates statistically significant survey responses when reporting differences between sub-groups for the 2003 data. Absence of this symbol indicates no statistical significance difference between sub-groups for the 2003 data.

 **New data not available**

Significance Testing

Ethnicity: *Latinos* were significantly more likely to respond “Yes” than were *Caucasians*.

Region: Residents of the *South County* were significantly more likely to respond “Yes” than were residents of the *San Lorenzo Valley*.

Income: Those earning *\$34,999 or less* were significantly more likely to respond “Yes” than were those earning *\$65,500 or more*.

Discrimination

Community Profile

*Percent of respondents who said “Yes” to:
“Have you ever felt discriminated against in Santa Cruz County in the past three years?”*

By Ethnicity	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	*2003	2003 N
Caucasian	17.7	20.1	13.0	7.9	11.9	15.0	491
Latino	34.8	36.0	36.6	11.0	18.0	28.0	157

By Region	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2003 N
North County	19.6	21.8	18.3	11.0	13.2	16.9	236
South County	26.7	30.6	27.6	12.5	14.9	22.3	240
San Lorenzo Valley	13.8	15.0	13.5	11.8	13.2	13.5	225

By Age	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	*2003	2003 N
18-24	NA	31.7	23.9	12.2	29.9	28.8	108
25-44	NA	22.6	23.0	13.0	14.1	17.1	228
45-64	NA	24.7	21.9	12.8	15.6	20.1	252
65 and older	NA	14.8	6.5	5.4	3.2	7.4	113

By Gender	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2003 N
Male	NA	20.7	18.2	10.4	12.3	19.7	347
Female	NA	24.9	21.8	11.9	15.7	17.1	354

By Income	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	*2003	2003 N
\$34,999 per year or less	NA	33.1	28.4	8.1	17.6	23.5	308
\$35,000 - \$65,499	NA	22.5	14.5	15.8	16.5	14.4	164
\$65,000 and greater	NA	13.2	13.3	9.1	8.6	12.6	177

Source: Santa Cruz County Community Assessment Project, *Telephone Survey*, 2003.

* Indicates statistically significant survey responses when reporting differences between sub-groups for the 2003 data. Absence of this symbol indicates no statistical significance difference between sub-groups for the 2003 data.

 **New data not available**

Significance Testing

Ethnicity: *Latinos* were significantly more likely to respond “Yes” than were *Caucasians*.

Age: *18-24 year olds* were significantly more likely to respond “Yes” than were those *65 and older*; *45-64 year olds* were significantly more likely to respond “Yes” than were those *65 and older*.

Income: Those earning *\$34,999 or less* were significantly more likely to respond “Yes” than were those earning *\$65,500 or more*.

QUALITY OF LIFE INDICATOR 95

Hate Crimes

A hate crime is considered to be any crime motivated by the victim’s race, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, or physical or mental disability.



Hate Crimes by Bias Motivation, Santa Cruz County

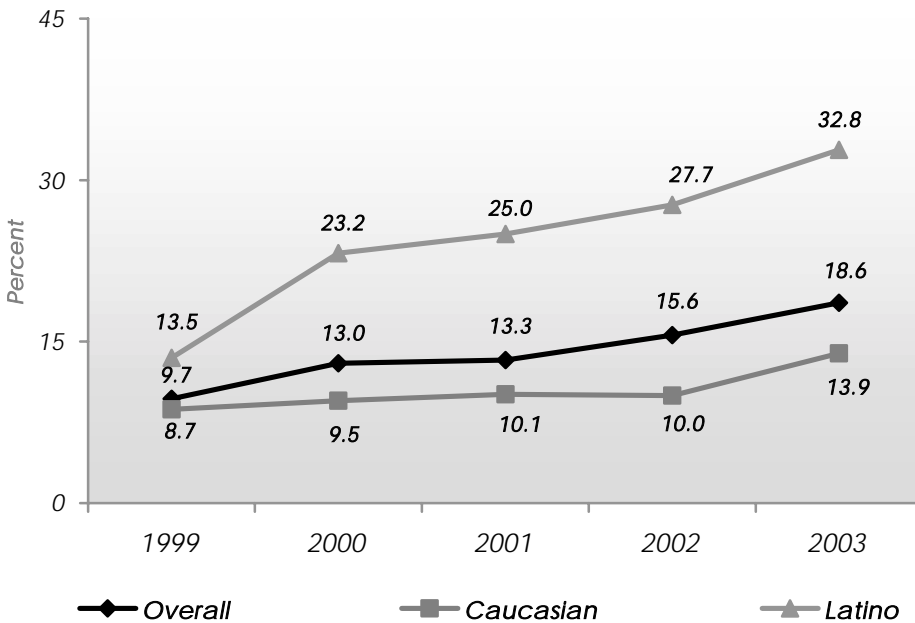
Bias Motivation	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	96-03 % Change
Race/ ethnicity	4	10	6	8	4	6	10	5	25.0
Sexual Orientation	7	4	5	3	5	4	7	3	-57.1
Religion	1	0	1	0	2	0	3	0	-100.0
Physical Disability	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Gender	NA	NA	0	0	0	0	0	1	NA
Total	12	15	12	11	11	10	20	9	-25.0

Source: State of California Department of Justice, *California Criminal Justice Profile*, 2004.


Basic Needs

The inability to meet basic needs often underlies other social and familial issues such as educational performance, family relationships and health status.

In any given month, do you find yourself having to go without basic needs such as child care, health care, food or clothing? (Respondents answering “Yes”)



Total respondents	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
Overall	557	654	706	684	700
Caucasian	424	442	493	478	489
Latino	89	142	159	154	158

 *If “Yes,” what do you go without? (Selected responses)*

Response	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
Health care (including dental)	43.4	41.0	60.8	36.1	51.8
Food / Limits food choices	30.2	56.6	31.2	40.8	46.2
Clothing	15.1	18.1	24.7	32.3	38.1
Child care	5.7	19.3	12.4	6.8	7.2

Year 2003: 129 respondents offering 212 responses.

Source: Santa Cruz County Community Assessment Project, *Telephone Survey*, 2003.

Note: See appendix for results of statistical testing for this question.

 **New data not available**

QUALITY OF LIFE INDICATOR 97

Children Receiving Free or Reduced Cost Meals

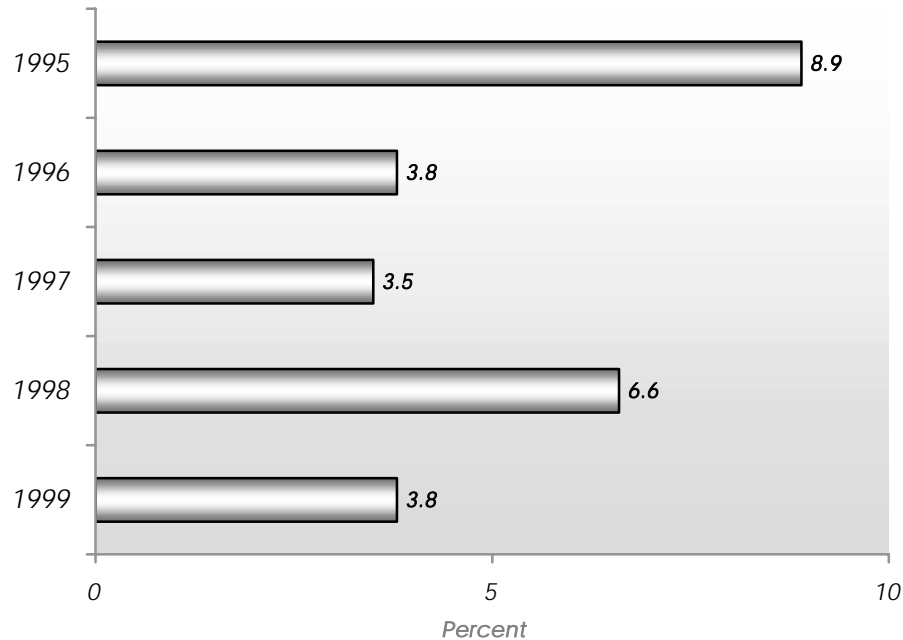
Percent of Children Receiving Free/Reduced Cost Meals

School Districts	1994/95	1995/96	1996/97	1997/98	1998/99	1999/00	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04
Bonny Doon Elementary	9.6	10.2	10.1	5.1	5.9	4.5	0.0	0.6	0.0	0.0
Happy Valley Elementary	12.0	13.2	8.3	10.9	9.4	8.4	8.7	10.6	13.6	5.6
Live Oak Elementary	44.3	42.2	42.1	41.1	36.4	37.1	34.4	32.6	39.1	43.6
Mountain Elementary	15.8	21.4	14.3	19.3	16.2	12.8	11.7	13.1	11.9	19.4
Pacific Elementary	47.7	40.3	23.7	26.8	20.5	20.2	25.3	28.4	26.1	28.6
Pajaro Valley Unified	52.9	56.3	55.2	55.0	54.0	56.3	53.9	53.5	58.2	59.5
San Lorenzo Valley Unified	15.6	14.5	14.5	13.2	14.1	13.6	13.3	10.7	12.2	11.9
Santa Cruz City Elementary	35.9	36.8	37.9	38.1	33.8	39.5	38.0	33.8	39.3	37.9
Santa Cruz County Office of Education	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	0.0	0.0	0.0	12.7	25.3
Santa Cruz High School	14.3	13.3	13.1	12.7	11.6	13.1	11.6	12.4	14.0	17.0
Scotts Valley Unified	NA	2.9	3.2	2.3	6.1	5.4	5.9	4.6	4.6	5.0
Soquel Elementary	25.9	23.7	27.3	26.1	24.6	25.2	23.9	24.8	26.0	24.9
County Total	36.0	37.0	36.8	37.2	36.2	37.5	36.4	35.5	38.6	39.9
State	44.6	46.4	47.1	47.4	47.6	47.3	46.8	47.0	48.7	49.0

Source: State of California Department of Education, *California Basic Educational Data System (CBEDS)*, 2004.

 Homeless

*Have you ever been without a home locally (homeless, in a shelter, or on the street) in the last **five years**?*
 (Respondents answering “Yes”) 1995-1999.

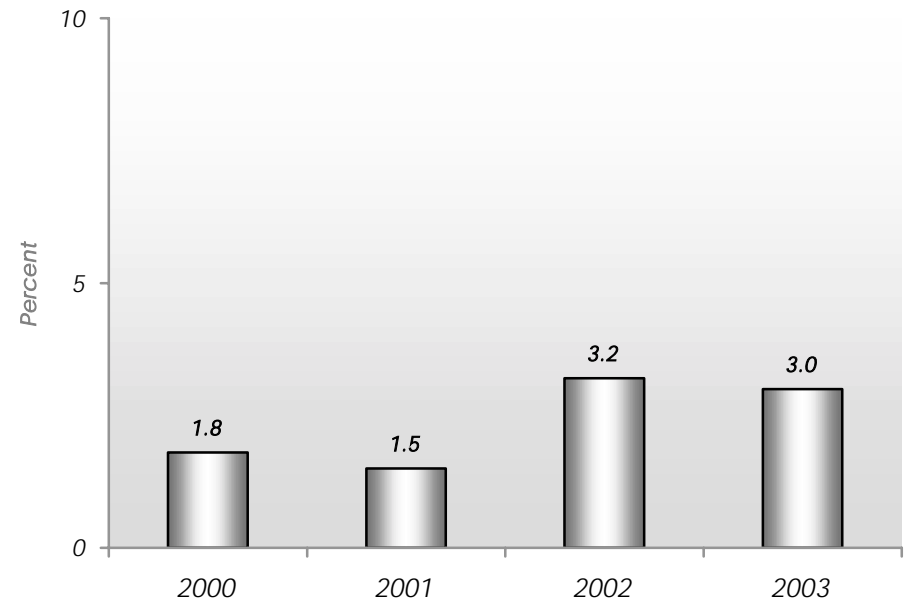


Total respondents	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999
Overall	348	500	509	512	558

Source: Santa Cruz County Community Assessment Project, *Telephone Survey*, 2003.

Note: Question was re-worded in 2000 survey to read, “Have you ever been without a home locally in the last year?”

*Have you ever been without a home locally (homeless, in a shelter, or on the street) in the **last year**?*
 (Respondents answering “Yes”) 2000-2003.



Total respondents	2000	2001	2002	2003
Overall	656	706	684	702

Note: See appendix for results of statistical testing for this question.

 **New data not available**

QUALITY OF LIFE INDICATOR 98

 Homeless – in the Last Year

 Community Profile

*Percent of respondents who said “Yes” to:
“Have you ever been without a home locally (homeless, in a shelter, or on the street) in the last year?”*

By Ethnicity	2000	2001	2002	2003	2003 N
Caucasian	1.1	0.9	2.4	2.1	491
Latino	2.8	2.4	4.5	4.4	157

By Region	2000	2001	2002	2003	2003 N
North County	2.3	2.6	4.1	2.2	236
South County	1.5	0.5	2.6	4.7	241
San Lorenzo Valley	0.9	0.3	1.6	0.9	225

By Age	2000	2001	2002	*2003	2003 N
18-24	5.4	9.2	9.1	7.2	109
25-44	2.2	1.8	5.3	2.9	228
45-64	0.5	0.0	1.0	0.8	252
65 and older	0.0	0.0	1.0	3.8	113

By Gender	2000	2001	2002	2003	2003 N
Male	2.2	1.2	3.2	3.8	348
Female	1.6	1.9	3.2	2.2	354

By Income	2000	2001	2002	*2003	2003 N
\$34,999 per year or less	7.2	2.2	5.6	5.9	309
\$35,000 - \$65,499 per year	0.0	2.0	1.0	1.6	164
Over \$65,000 per year	0.6	0.2	1.8	0.0	177

Source: Santa Cruz County Community Assessment Project, *Telephone Survey*, 2003.

* Indicates statistically significant survey responses when reporting differences between sub-groups for the 2003 data. Absence of this symbol indicates no statistical significance difference between sub-groups for the 2003 data.

 **New data not available**

Significance Testing

Age: 25-44 year olds were significantly more likely to respond “Yes” than were 45-64 year olds.

Income: Those earning \$34,999 or less were significantly more likely to respond “Yes” than were those earning \$65,500 or more.

Homeless – in Last 5 Years (1997-1999)

Community Profile

*Percent of respondents who said “Yes” to:
“Have you ever been without a home locally (homeless, in a shelter, or on the street) in the last **five** years?”*

By Ethnicity	1997	1998	1999
Caucasian	3.0	5.5	3.7
Latino	4.9	8.7	4.5

By Region	1997	1998	1999
North County	3.8	6.7	4.2
South County	2.6	6.7	3.5
San Lorenzo Valley	4.5	6.4	3.3

By Age	1997	1998	1999
18-24	NA	NA	8.5
25-44	NA	NA	4.6
45-64	NA	NA	2.2
65 and older	NA	NA	0.0

By Gender	1997	1998	1999
Male	NA	NA	4.2
Female	NA	NA	3.6

By Income	1997	1998	1999
\$34,999 per year or less	NA	NA	8.3
\$35,000 - \$65,499 per year	NA	NA	1.7
Over \$65,500 per year	NA	NA	1.3

Source: Santa Cruz County Community Assessment Project, *Telephone Survey*, 2003.

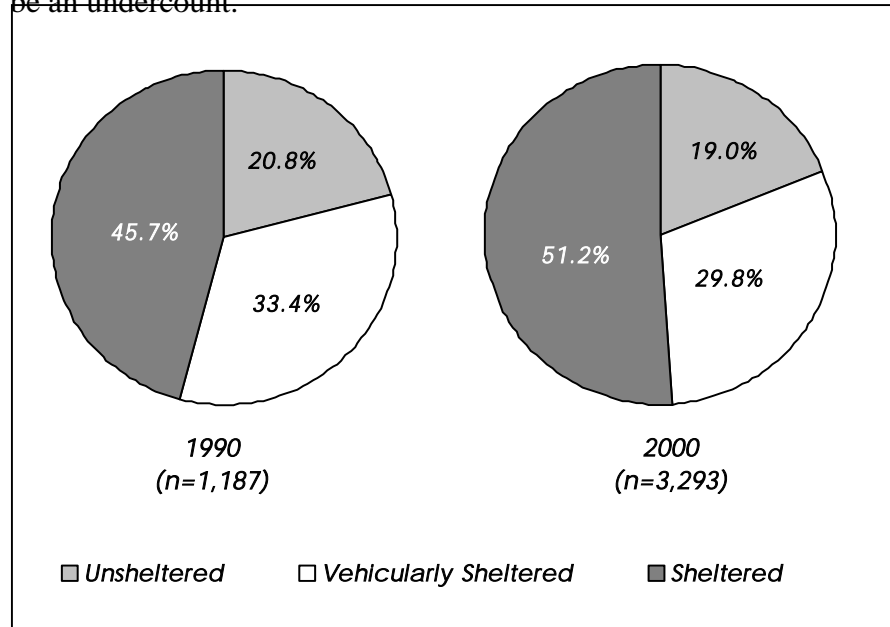
Note: This question was revised after 1999 and new data is not available.

 **New data not available**

QUALITY OF LIFE INDICATOR 98

Point-in-Time Homeless Census

In 1990, the first Homeless Census in Santa Cruz County was conducted. Although the Homeless 2000 Census was conducted using a similar, non-intrusive observation method, there were significant differences in the approach. The most dramatic of these differences was the use of U.S. census tracts for enumeration. The use of census tracts enabled the researchers to cover the entire County of Santa Cruz, as opposed to focusing on key locations. While the methodological changes increased County coverage, the figures below are believed to be an undercount.



Homeless Needs Assessment, 2000

Category	Selected Findings
Residency	28.4% of homeless respondents grew up in Santa Cruz County 76.8% had lived here for more than 5 years 72.1% had no plans to leave the County 17.1% lived outdoors 7.8% lived in a vehicle
Length of Homelessness	50.1% of respondents had been homeless less than 1 year Long-term homelessness (greater than 2 years) was up – 12.6% in 1990 to 32.0% in 2000
Employment	Employed homeless persons were on the rise – 23.8% in 1990 to 32.6% in 2000 32.6% were employed full or part-time or are self employed 59.9% were actively looking for work
Health	29.9% did not get enough to eat 27.6% did not receive health care when they needed it in the last year 49.8 would accept drug or alcohol counseling if it were made available
Veterans	Veterans were on the decline as a percent of the homeless – 20.4% in 1990 to 13.0% in 2000
Assistance	30.1% were on a waiting list for housing assistance 38.4% did not receive any type of government assistance 20.9% had been turned away from a shelter at least once
Total Respondents	811

Source: Applied Survey Research, *Santa Cruz County Homeless 2000 Census and Needs Assessment, 2000. Assessment of Shelter and Housing Needs for the Homeless Population of Santa Cruz County, 1990.*

 **New data not available**

Homeless – Housing and Emergency Beds

Number of Non-disaster Emergency Shelter Beds, 2003/04

Agency	Primary Client	Summer	Winter
Interfaith Satellite Shelter Project (ISSP) ¹	Adults and families	42	142
Pajaro Rescue Mission ²	Adult men	60	60
River Street Shelter	Adult men and women	32	32
Pajaro Valley Shelter Services	Women and children	21	21
Salvation Army Homeless Shelters ³	Adults and families	51-71	51-101
Women's Crisis Support / Defensa de Mujeres	Battered women and their children	15	15
Total		221-241	321-371

Source: Respective service providers, via phone communications, 2004.

¹Interfaith Satellite Shelter Project provides 14 mats and blankets (no beds) year-round at 3 churches (42 mats total) per night from among 20 participating churches, with space varying nightly depending on the size of churches and an additional 100 beds from November 15 to April 15 by renting the National Guard Armory for the winter.

²Pajaro Rescue Mission is not within Santa Cruz County. It is included here because, although it is situated just outside the County, it serves homeless persons from within the County.

³Salvation Army Homeless Shelters include 51 beds on site with up to 20 more available beds through HUD housing. In the winter the amount of available beds increases by 12-15 beds through HUD housing and up to 15 beds at local churches.

Housing for Medical Emergencies Program

Agency	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	96-03 % Change
Number of vouchers provided	363	507	405	414	308	280 ⁴	376 ⁴	310	-14.6
Number of recipients (unduplicated)	312	390	360	362	310	248 ⁴	336 ⁴	248	-20.5
Number of children	74	97	96	98	70	50 ⁴	68 ⁴	42	-43.2
Number of adults	238	293	259	264	240	198 ⁴	268 ⁴	206	-13.4

Source: Community Action Board, 2004.

Note: The Housing for Medical Emergencies Program provides emergency shelter vouchers for individuals and their families who meet the following conditions: discharged from the hospital or afflicted with Tuberculosis or HIV / AIDS. Vouchers are good for up to one week in a motel, and individuals may receive additional vouchers if needed.

⁴Figures have been revised.

QUALITY OF LIFE INDICATOR 98

Homeless – Children

Number of Children Who Are Homeless

	1997/98	1998/99	1999/00	2000/01	2001/02 ²	2002/03 ³	2003/04 ⁴
Number of students enrolled in the Lead Education Agency (LEA)	39,200	54,500	40,706	40,462	39,954	37,428	39,140
Number of students who are homeless ¹	1,000+	1,000+	1,907	2,327	2,327	6,394	4,341
Number of students who are homeless and receiving services under the McKinney Act	505	581	819	737	608	657	2,547
Number of "At Risk" students under the McKinney Act	27	148	91	344	150	131	120

Housing Situations of Homeless Children

Living Arrangements	1997/1998	1998/99	1999/00	2000/01	2001/02 ²	2002/03 ³	2003/04 ⁴
Shelters	62	107	36	54	65	265	20
Doubled-up homeless ⁵	45	216	1,156	1,695	129	3,968	1,271
Motels	150	101	197	114	32	484	16
Transitional housing	162	75	125	107	330	300	125
Migrant in non-migrant housing and homeless	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	2,160
Other situations	NA	NA	398	312	52	1,377	749
Total	419	499	1,912	2,282	608	6,394	4,341

Source: Santa Cruz County Office of Education, *Homeless Education Outreach*, 2004.

¹Prior to 1999/00, the number of homeless students was based on an estimate produced by the Santa Cruz County Office of Education, Homeless Education Outreach Program (funded through the McKinney Act*). In 1999, the County Office of Education conducted a survey of all schools in the County, asking them how many homeless students they had. Information gathered in this survey is reflected in the tables above and accounts for the dramatic increase from previous years.

²There was no survey conducted in 2001/02. The number of students in housing situations only reflects students who were served by the program.

³2002/03 had a 95% response rate for surveys, the highest response rate to date.

⁴In 2003/04 the response rate of surveys was 53%. The program goal in the county is to work with the school districts to more carefully identify the students who are experiencing problems with their housing. The higher level of services offered is a result of collaborating with San Lorenzo Valley Unified School District, Pajaro Valley Unified School District, and Santa Cruz City Schools.

⁵The term "doubled-up homeless" refers to families doubled or tripled up in housing due to an inability to find permanent housing.

*(See page 226)

Homeless – Children

Homeless Children Receiving Services Under the McKinney Act by Age Group

Age Group	1997/98	1998/99	1999/00	2000/01	2001/02 ¹	2002/03 ²	2003/04 ³
Pre-school	26	21	150	204	8	10	0
Primary (grade K-3)	117	192	216	322	221	310	451
Intermediate (grade 4-6)	109	168	171	323	114	122	833
Middle School (grade 7-8)	132	88	212	175	70	45	483
High School (grade 9-12)	121	112	161	57	195	170	780
Total	505	581	910	1,081	608	657	2,547

Source: Santa Cruz County Office of Education, *Homeless Education Outreach*, 2004.

¹There was no survey conducted in 2001/02. The number of students by age group only reflects students who were served by the program.

²2002/03 had a 95% response rate for surveys, the highest response rate to date.

³In 2003/04 the response rate of surveys was 53%. The program goal in the county is to work with the school districts to more carefully identify the students who are experiencing problems with their housing. The higher level of services offered is a result of collaborating with San Lorenzo Valley Unified School District, Pajaro Valley Unified School District, and Santa Cruz City Schools.

The McKinney Act is a legislative bill that enables the provision of government services to homeless individuals.

The criteria used by McKinney Act to determine homelessness has now become the de facto definition:

1. An individual who lacks a fixed, regular and adequate nighttime residence, and
2. An individual who has a primary nighttime residence that is:
 - a. supervised publicly or privately operated shelter designed to provide temporary living accommodations (including welfare hotels, congregate shelters, and transitional housing for the mentally ill), or;
 - b. an institution that provides a temporary residence for individuals intended to be institutionalized, or;
 - c. a public or private place not designed for, or ordinarily used as, a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings.

This means that a person must satisfy both conditions 1 & 2 in order to receive government services for homeless individuals.

QUALITY OF LIFE INDICATOR 99

People Served by Food Bank

While services are not a good proxy for need, this indicator helps identify the scope of efforts to fight poverty and hunger.

Number of People Served by Jurisdiction

Jurisdiction	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	96-04 % Change
Capitola	794	685	1,462	709	926	1,064	1,237	897	941	18.5
Santa Cruz	7,466	7,618	4,881	6,271	7,095	7,701	8,672	9,548	14,442	93.4
Scotts Valley	408	1,610	1,024	1,295	1,102	1,038	1,085	889	1,055	158.6
Watsonville	6,412	7,722	8,852	11,181	11,273	10,383	13,210	11,258	12,961	102.1
Unincorporated	9,418	6,916	8,165	8,304	9,588	10,510	12,314	10,026	10,676	13.4
County Total	24,498	24,551	24,384	27,760	29,984	30,696	36,518	32,618	40,075	63.6

Number of People Served by Ethnicity

Ethnicity	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	96-04 % Change
Caucasian	11,749	9,742	9,483	10,869	12,040	12,150	13,615	10,764	12,825	9.2
Latino	11,218	12,738	12,975	14,304	16,896	16,521	20,546	19,245	24,285	116.5
African American	606	795	754	763	1,215	1,011	945	1,109	1,403	131.5
Asian	333	610	578	925	840	713	¹	783	761	128.5
Native American	242	295	308	238	309	513	432	522	521	115.3
Pacific Islander	150	175	130	424	162	295	¹	32	120	-20.0
Other	200	150	156	97	171	125	127	163	160	-20.0
Total	24,498	24,505	24,384	27,620	31,633	31,841	36,518	32,618	40,075	63.6

Source: Second Harvest Food Bank of Santa Cruz and San Benito Counties, 2004.

Note: Totals for ethnicity breakdowns differ due to the regions served by the Food Bank; the ethnicity data is not disaggregated by jurisdiction. Data collected is an unduplicated count of recipients for the month of March.

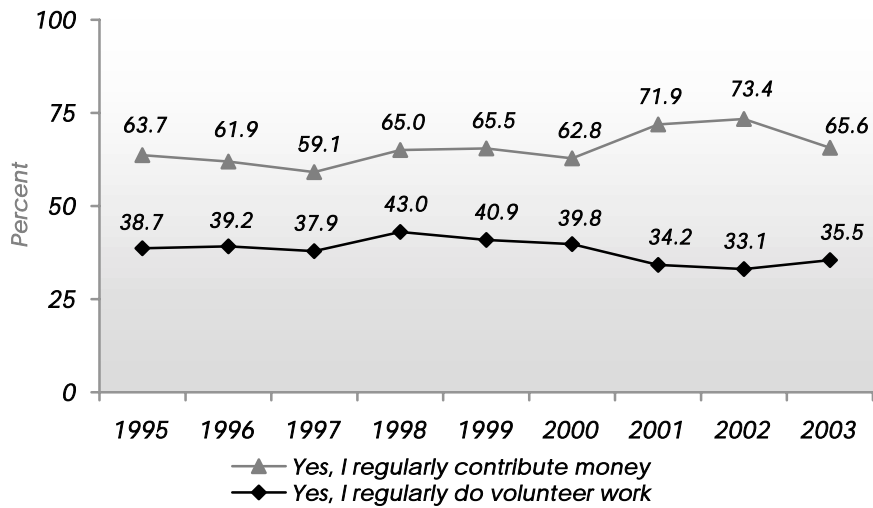
¹In 2002 data, Pacific Islanders and Asians were combined together for a total of 853.

Volunteerism / Charitable Giving

Volunteerism and charitable giving are measures of people's sense of ownership and responsibility for their community.

Do you regularly contribute money to charitable organizations?


Do you regularly do volunteer work in the community?



Total respondents	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
Do you regularly contribute money to charitable organizations?	347	499	492	514	524	656	704	681	701
Do you regularly do volunteer work?	349	498	509	514	560	656	706	684	698

Source: Santa Cruz County Community Assessment Project, *Telephone Survey*, 2003.

Note: See appendix for results of statistical testing for these questions.

 *If you volunteer, where do you volunteer?*

(Selected responses)

Response	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
School	37.0	36.1	16.4	29.7	39.9	38.7	23.0	19.4	22.6
Church	30.4	23.0	15.9	27.9	15.8	20.7	18.6	27.3	22.6
Youth organizations	-	-	-	-	22.8	11.9	14.3	10.0	10.2
Service organizations	-	-	-	-	-	10.3	13.9	10.9	8.3

Year 2003: 245 respondents offering 314 responses.

If you contribute money, will you give:

Response	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
Less than last year	26.8	17.4	17.9	13.9	9.0	7.8	11.6	17.3	24.2
More than last year	15.9	19.3	22.3	20.4	31.6	22.6	20.1	17.7	16.4
About the same as last year	57.3	63.3	59.8	65.7	55.4	68.0	66.1	64.3	57.8
Total Respondents	219	305	291	324	345	405	506	503	458

 **New data not available**

QUALITY OF LIFE INDICATOR 100

 Volunteerism

 Community Profile

*Percent of respondents who said “Yes” to:
“Do you regularly do volunteer work in the community?”*

By Ethnicity	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	*2003	2003 N
Latino	41.3	30.3	32.4	18.6	16.7	28.1	155
Caucasian	44.0	44.3	42.9	38.4	37.4	37.6	489

By Region	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	*2003	2003 N
North County	44.0	41.2	40.8	35.1	32.0	34.9	236
South County	44.6	37.0	30.4	34.2	32.3	32.3	238
San Lorenzo Valley	38.3	48.3	54.5	37.3	38.2	46.4	224

By Age	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	*2003	2003 N
18-24	NA	28.0	31.5	27.0	15.8	27.7	108
25-44	NA	44.7	41.4	33.0	26.1	35.3	227
45-64	NA	40.4	40.0	37.9	38.7	37.9	250
65 and older	NA	44.4	43.6	33.7	43.1	37.9	113

By Gender	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	*2003	2003 N
Male	NA	38.0	34.2	31.7	28.6	30.1	344
Female	NA	42.1	43.6	36.7	37.5	40.7	354

By Income	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2003 N
\$34,999 per year or less	NA	34.8	30.7	28.3	25.7	31.4	306
\$35,000 - \$65,499	NA	37.1	43.1	39.4	37.6	35.7	163
\$65,500 and greater	NA	53.9	48.8	37.9	37.0	38.0	177

Source: Santa Cruz County Community Assessment Project, *Telephone Survey*, 2003.

* Indicates statistically significant survey responses when reporting differences between sub-groups for the 2003 data. Absence of this symbol indicates no statistical significance difference between sub-groups for the 2003 data.

 **New data not available**

Significance Testing

Ethnicity: *Caucasians* were significantly more likely to respond “Yes” than were *Latinos*.

Region: Residents of the *San Lorenzo Valley* were significantly more likely to respond “Yes” than were residents of the *South County*.

Age: Those *65 and older* were significantly more likely to respond “Yes” than were *18-24 year olds*; *45-64 year olds* were significantly more likely to respond “Yes” than were *18-24 year olds*.

Gender: *Females* were significantly more likely to respond “Yes” than were *males*.

Charitable Giving

Community Profile

*Percent of respondents who said “Yes” to:
“Do you regularly contribute money to charitable organizations?”*

By Ethnicity	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	*2003	2003 N
Caucasian	70.5	69.5	68.6	72.2	77.2	71.7	490
Latino	43.5	43.2	49.3	68.3	63.7	50.7	156

By Region	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2003 N
North County	67.6	63.5	62.4	66.8	73.7	67.6	236
South County	60.0	64.5	57.4	75.4	70.5	59.8	241
San Lorenzo Valley	68.1	73.7	73.0	75.6	79.7	74.0	224

By Age	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	*2003	2003 N
18-24	NA	23.0	28.3	55.7	41.7	35.5	109
25-44	NA	64.7	58.3	63.3	66.0	57.9	228
45-64	NA	72.4	76.4	77.2	79.4	77.2	252
65 and older	NA	93.5	81.7	83.3	91.0	84.2	111

By Gender	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	*2003	2003 N
Male	NA	61.0	59.6	66.6	72.8	62.1	346
Female	NA	69.1	64.8	77.1	73.9	68.9	355

By Income	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	*2003	2003 N
\$34,999 per year or less	NA	41.6	43.8	57.7	60.8	52.0	311
\$35,000 - \$65,499	NA	75.6	71.8	74.4	73.1	72.7	164
\$65,500 and greater	NA	83.8	85.0	87.0	88.4	80.1	176

Source: Santa Cruz County Community Assessment Project, *Telephone Survey*, 2003.

* Indicates statistically significant survey responses when reporting differences between sub-groups for the 2003 data. Absence of this symbol indicates no statistical significance difference between sub-groups for the 2003 data.

 **New data not available**

Significance Testing

Ethnicity: *Caucasians* were significantly more likely to respond “Yes” than were *Latinos*.

Age: Those *65 and older* were significantly more likely to respond “Yes” than were *18-24 year olds* or *25-44 year olds*; *45-64 year olds* were significantly more likely to respond “Yes” than were *18-24 year olds* or *25-44 year olds*; *25-44 year olds* were significantly more likely to respond “Yes” than were *18-24 year olds*.

Gender: *Females* were significantly more likely to respond “Yes” than were *males*.

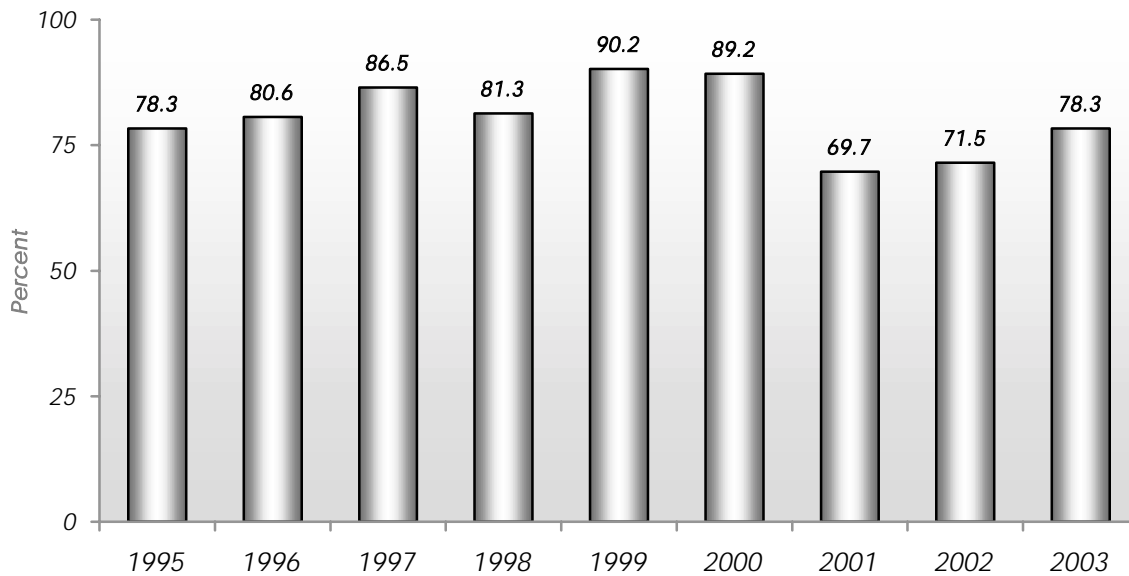
Income: Those earning *\$65,500 or more* were significantly more likely to respond “Yes” than were those earning *\$34,999 or less*; those earning *\$35,000 through \$65,499* were significantly more likely to respond “Yes” than were those earning *\$34,999 or less*.

QUALITY OF LIFE INDICATOR 101

 Youth Activities

After school activities provide a safe and positive environment for youth.

*Does your child have enough activities after school and on weekends?
(Respondents answering “Yes”)*



Total respondents	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
Overall	120	170	156	144	153	185	180	177	169

Source: Santa Cruz County Community Assessment Project, *Telephone Survey*, 2003.

Note: See appendix for results of statistical testing for this question.

 **New data not available**

Youth Activities

Community Profile

*Percent of respondents who said “Yes” to:
“Does your child have enough activities after school and on weekends?”*

By Ethnicity	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2003 N
Caucasian	84.8	94.0	96.2	82.5	87.2	78.8	90
Latino	71.4	81.4	78.1	52.1	53.3	79.3	68

By Region	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2003 N
North County	79.6	97.1	94.4	65.3	81.8	83.2	42
South County	77.5	81.0	80.0	77.7	59.6	76.3	77
San Lorenzo Valley	95.8	94.4	100.0	90.5	85.6	72.9	58

By Age	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2003 N
18-24	NA	100.0	66.7	100.0	0.0	81.8	7
25-44	NA	89.3	89.6	67.8	68.1	81.4	89
45-64	NA	93.5	93.1	72.2	77.9	72.5	68
65 and older	NA	50.0	0.0	23.3	100.0	100.0	5

By Gender	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2003 N
Male	NA	98.1	94.7	68.3	66.6	77.2	85
Female	NA	86.3	86.7	70.9	75.6	79.5	84

By Income	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2003 N
\$34,999 per year or less	NA	78.3	78.7	58.9	52.7	83.8	71
\$35,000 - \$65,499	NA	89.7	89.1	58.7	71.9	75.4	43
\$65,500 and greater	NA	98.3	98.6	91.0	95.7	76.3	44


Source: Santa Cruz County Community Assessment Project, *Telephone Survey*, 2003.

* Indicates statistically significant survey responses when reporting differences between sub-groups for the 2003 data. Absence of this symbol indicates no statistical significance difference between sub-groups for the 2003 data.

 **New data not available**


QUALITY OF LIFE INDICATOR 102

 **Quality of Life**

 *Generally speaking, what contributes most to your quality of life in Santa Cruz County?*
(Selected responses)

Response	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
Scenery / Geography / Climate	53.1	47.2	60.9	72.7	65.7	67.8	59.3	61.6
Community / Low population / Slow pace	12.7	9.7	12.6	12.6	8.9	12.4	8.7	8.7
Family / Friends / Friendly people	16.1	11.0	16.3	17.6	25.7	10.2	14.3	12.8
Social climate	-	-	-	3.1	3.2	9.7	8.5	10.2
Quiet / Peaceful	-	-	-	5.4	7.5	4.2	3.1	7.7

Year 2003: 703 respondents offering 985 responses.

 *What do you think takes away from your quality of life in Santa Cruz County?*
(Selected responses)


Response	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
Traffic	9.5	14.5	18.1	32.0	30.4	34.0	30.7	23.3
Overcrowding / Unplanned growth	11.1	14.0	18.1	24.2	17.8	21.8	17.5	9.2
Cost of living / Housing	12.6	11.2	15.7	17.7	22.7	21.6	23.5	26.9
Nothing takes away	1.9	-	2.3	5.9	2.5	8.0	3.0	6.8
Road conditions	2.7	24.0	6.0	6.6	6.8	2.3	1.7	2.4
Gangs / Crime	13.0	7.7	8.0	6.1	4.8	2.4	4.6	4.2

Year 2003: 669 respondents offering 815 responses.

Source: Santa Cruz County Community Assessment Project, *Telephone Survey*, 2003.

 **New data not available**

Quality of Life

 *Now thinking about all the issues we have talked about, if you could make one major change locally, what would it be?
(Selected responses)*

Response	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
Affordable housing	6.6	9.8	13.2	12.7	25.8	18.0	22.7	17.2
Less traffic	6.2	31.9	15.6	25.3	21.3	15.0	9.2	6.7
Improve schools	16.0	9.6	11.6	9.5	6.9	8.8	8.2	14.6
Homeless issues	16.5	10.8	5.6	3.8	4.3	7.0	5.0	4.7
Improve local government / government officials	-	-	2.4	3.2	3.1	6.4	8.1	6.7
Stop growth / slow growth	5.5	3.9	4.0	4.7	10.4	4.8	5.2	2.6
Jobs / job training	5.3	6.3	7.2	3.2	6.6	4.1	2.9	6.6
Crime	10.6	5.8	10.2	5.0	2.9	1.5	3.8	1.4
More bike trails / pedestrian friendly	-	-	-	16.1	1.2	0.9	1.0	1.9

Year 2003: 686 respondents offering 825 responses.

Source: Santa Cruz County Community Assessment Project, *Telephone Survey*, 2003.

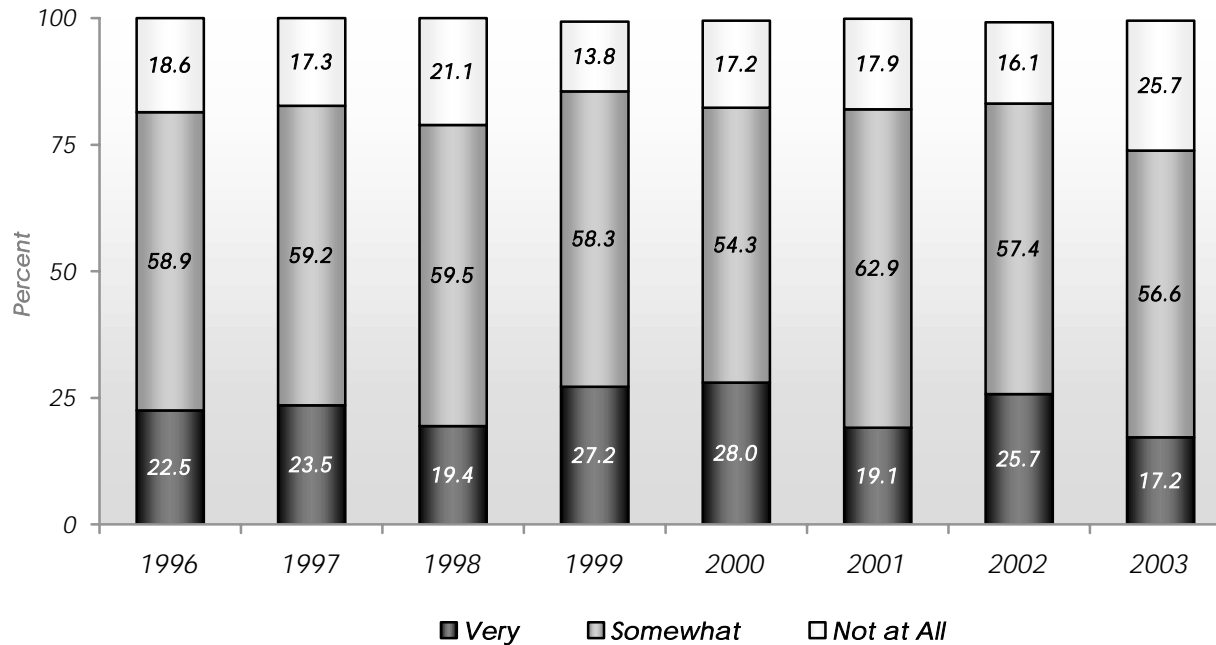
 **New data not available**

QUALITY OF LIFE INDICATOR 103

☎ Disaster Preparedness

This indicator gauges the amount of self-help to be expected in the event of a disaster such as an earthquake, wildfire, or floods.

How prepared are you for a natural disaster?



Total respondents	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
Overall	494	510	511	559	658	706	682	699

Source: Santa Cruz County Community Assessment Project, *Telephone Survey*, 2003.

Notes: Due to their low numbers, respondents who said “Don’t know” are not included in the graph. See appendix for results of statistical testing for this question.

📄 **New data not available**

Disaster Preparedness

Community Profile

Percent of respondents who said they were “Not at all” prepared for a natural disaster.

By Ethnicity	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	*2003	2003 N
Caucasian	16.1	24.4	22.0	16.4	17.1	17.9	487
Latino	31.5	42.7	38.7	29.8	48.2	51.0	158

By Region	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	*2003	2003 N
North County	23.2	29.8	32.1	22.0	27.6	26.0	234
South County	19.6	28.3	26.2	18.1	27.8	30.2	241
San Lorenzo Valley	9.7	15.0	18.6	10.7	13.0	11.7	225

By Age	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	*2003	2003 N
18-24	NA	42.7	45.7	35.5	35.8	49.8	109
25-44	NA	27.6	31.3	24.3	37.6	33.1	229
45-64	NA	23.6	18.2	12.3	18.8	11.7	249
65 and older	NA	17.3	21.3	15.3	11.1	18.0	112

By Gender	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2003 N
Male	NA	25.4	28.4	18.3	20.6	24.9	345
Female	NA	27.8	27.8	19.9	30.7	26.4	355

By Income	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	*2003	2003 N
\$34,999 per year or less	NA	40.9	40.4	21.8	34.1	35.4	309
\$35,000 - \$65,499	NA	23.0	20.4	18.0	22.4	19.7	164
\$65,500 and greater	NA	19.1	14.3	13.2	19.3	15.7	175

Source: Santa Cruz County Community Assessment Project, *Telephone Survey*, 2003.

* Indicates statistically significant survey responses when reporting differences between sub-groups for the 2003 data. Absence of this symbol indicates no statistical significance difference between sub-groups for the 2003 data.

 **New data not available**

Significance Testing

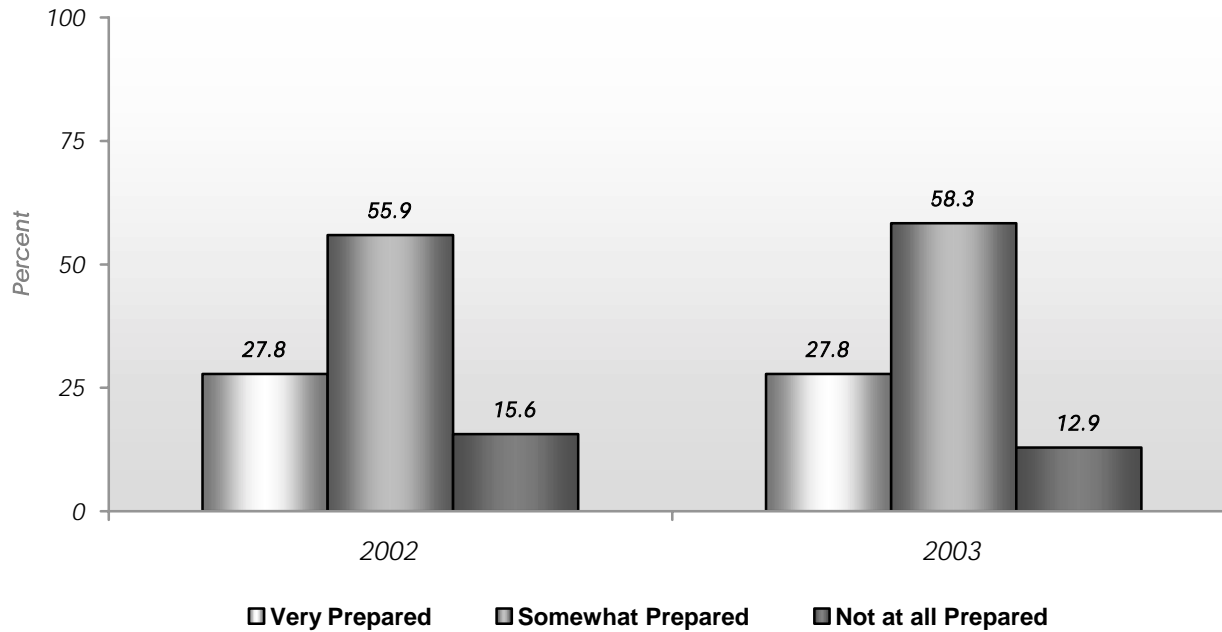
- Age:** *18-24 year olds* were significantly more likely to respond that they were “Not at all prepared” than were *45-65 year olds* or those *65 and older*; *25-44 year olds* were significantly more likely to respond that they were “Not at all prepared” than were *45-64 year olds* or those *65 and older*.
- Ethnicity:** *Latinos* were significantly more likely to respond that they were “Not at all prepared” than were *Caucasians*.

- Income:** Those earning *\$34,999 or less* were significantly more likely to respond “Not at all prepared” than were those earning *\$35,000 to \$65,499* or those earning *\$65,500 or more*.
- Region:** Residents of the *North County* and *South County* were significantly more likely to respond that they were “Not at all prepared” than were residents of the *San Lorenzo Valley*.

QUALITY OF LIFE INDICATOR 104

Fire or Medical Emergency Preparedness

How prepared are you for a personal emergency such as a medical emergency or a fire?



Total respondents	2002	2003
Overall	684	703

Source: Santa Cruz County Community Assessment Project, *Telephone Survey*, 2003.

Note: Due to their low numbers, respondents who said “Don’t know” are not included in the graph. See appendix for results of significance testing.

 **New data not available**

Fire or Medical Emergency Preparedness

Community Profile

Percent of respondents who said they were “Not at all” prepared for a personal emergency such as a medical emergency or a fire.

By Ethnicity	2002	*2003	2003 N
Caucasian	9.9	10.3	491
Latino	31.8	20.1	158

By Region	2002	2003	2003 N
North County	15.0	12.4	236
South County	19.2	14.8	242
San Lorenzo Valley	8.5	9.6	225

By Age	2002	*2003	2003 N
18-24	24.6	22.5	109
25-44	22.9	15.6	229
45-64	12.7	9.4	252
65 and older	2.7	6.0	113

By Gender	2002	2003	2003 N
Male	13.5	10.2	348
Female	17.8	15.6	355

By Income	2002	*2003	2003 N
\$34,999 per year or less	24.9	19.1	311
\$35,000 - \$65,499	10.9	11.6	164
\$65,500 and greater	8.3	4.0	177

Source: Santa Cruz County Community Assessment Project, *Telephone Survey*, 2003.

* Indicates statistically significant survey responses when reporting differences between sub-groups for the 2003 data. Absence of this symbol indicates no statistical significance difference between sub-groups for the 2003 data.

 **New data not available**

Significance Testing

Ethnicity: *Latinos* were significantly more likely to respond that they were “Not at all prepared” than were *Caucasians*.

Age: *18-24 year olds* were significantly more likely to respond that they were “Not at all prepared” than were *45-64 year olds* or those *65 and older*.

Income: Those earning *\$34,999 or less* were significantly more likely to respond “Not at all prepared” than were those earning *\$35,000 through \$65,499* or *\$65,500 or more*

