



Community Goals:

By the year 2010, health of rivers and ocean is improved by reducing erosion, reducing pollution, and increasing summer stream flows.

Community Hero: Patrick J. Fitz, *Community Volunteer*

By the year 2010, open space is preserved and increased while the percentage of housing units is increased which are environmentally sound, green, affordable, and near transit and job centers.

Community Hero: Charles Paulden, *Community Volunteer*

By the year 2010, single passenger auto use is reduced by improving cyclist safety, increasing miles of bike lanes, and increasing use of public transportation.

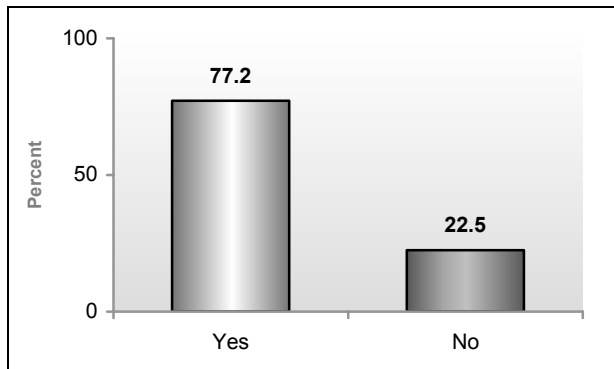
Community Hero: Paul McGrath

A Summary of Santa Cruz County's Natural Environment, 2006

Over the past twelve years, Santa Cruz County has experienced some notable improvements to the natural environment. Santa Cruz County residents achieved modest gains in their goals to reduce water use. Most water districts reported a reduction in daily water use since 1996, although all had an increase in service connections.

Seventy-seven percent (77.2%) of 2005 survey respondents reported taking steps to reduce their household water consumption. The top ways residents reduced their water consumption are by using a hose end nozzle or timers to water and by installing low-flow showerheads and toilets.

Household Water Use Reduction



✓ Percent of respondents reporting whether or not they are taking steps to reduce their household water consumption (2005).

When asked what one thing concerned surveyed residents the most about the natural environment, people have consistently cited overall pollution, along with air and water pollution, and development of open space and agricultural land as top concerns. In 2005, water pollution was the top concern for Santa Cruz County residents, up from 11.2% of respondents in 1999 to 23.7% in 2005. The percentage of residents citing traffic and too many cars as a top concern also

increased greatly, from 4.7% of respondents in 1999 to 17.6% of respondents in 2005.

From 1989 to 2002, six out of 11 County waterways showed improvement in the percentage of impairment by pollutants. Unfortunately, as of 2002, Carbonera Creek, San Lorenzo River, and Watsonville Slough were 100% impaired. The health of Aptos Creek also declined significantly from 1989 to 2002, with 84% impairment in 2002 compared to 13% in 1989.

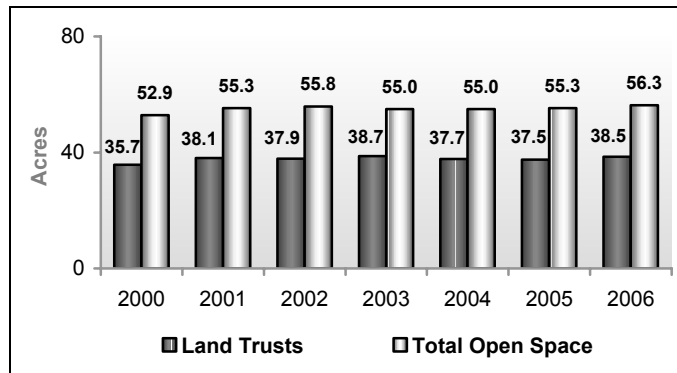
In 2005, and for the first time since 2000, there were no closures of any Santa Cruz County beaches. However, from 2000 to 2005, the number of days that beaches were posted with warnings remained fairly consistent, with the exception of 2002 when the number of posting days was double that of any other year.



There were two days in 2005 where air quality exceeded state standards, both of which were due to levels of particulate matter. Davenport was the only area in 2005 where particulate matter exceeded state air quality standards and no areas in Santa Cruz County had days exceeding safe levels of ozone. In comparison, in 1996, there were fifteen days that exceeded state air quality standards, two of which were due to levels of ozone. In 2005, there were 193 air quality complaints, an increase of 91.1% from 1999. One hundred-twenty four complaints came from the city of Santa Cruz, and 103 complaints named odor as the offending irritant.

In the area of habitat preservation, from 2001 to 2006 Santa Cruz County residents gained about 3,400 protected acres through the actions of public and private agencies. In 2006, almost 28% of acreage in the County is protected, with over 56 acres of open space per 1,000 residents. Land trusts comprised nearly 39 of those 56 acres of open space per 1,000 residents in 2006 and, since 2000, land trust acreage increased by just over 1,050 acres.

Land Trusts and Open Space

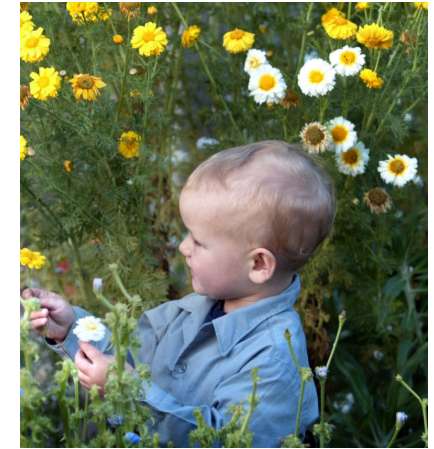


✓ Number of land trust acres and total open space acres per 1,000 residents.

There are several species of plants in Santa Cruz County that are considered rare, threatened, or endangered and must be considered under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). Also, there are 19 endangered or threatened species of animals in Santa Cruz County, including eight species of birds, five of which are recognized as endangered by the state of California. In Santa Cruz County, there are currently over 65 on-going ecological restoration and access projects, many of which are designed to improve at-risk habitats for plant and animal species such as the endangered Coho salmon.

Patterns of neighborhood park use have shifted since 1999, with more survey respondents reporting that they use neighborhood parks “frequently,” and fewer respondents indicating that they “never” use them. In 1999, 30.2% of respondents indicated they used

neighborhood parks “frequently” while in 2003, 42.2% said the same. In 2005, the survey question changed, and survey respondents were asked about their level of satisfaction with the parks in their neighborhood. Fifty-six percent (56.4%) of respondents reported being “very satisfied” with their neighborhood parks while 35.5% were “somewhat satisfied.”



Farmland acreage in the County declined by 14.0% from 1996 to 2005. The greatest declines were in field crops and pasture lands, where the County lost more than 34% of its acreage. Land used for berry production was the only type of farmland that increased acreage during this time, with an increase of 34.0%. Between 1990 and 2004, 890 acres of Santa Cruz County agricultural land was converted to urban use, including 506 acres of Prime Farmland.

The pounds of pesticides applied in Santa Cruz County increased by less than 1% from 1997 to 2004. There was also a 46.6% reduction in the number of agricultural production applications during the same time period, indicating that more pounds of pesticide were used per application in 2004 than in 1997. A similar pattern was observed in neighboring counties, except in San Mateo County, which saw a large decrease in both pesticide applications and the amount of pounds applied.

The number of organic farmers in the County increased 42.4% from 1999 to 2005, and Santa Cruz County has consistently had the largest number of organic farmers in the tri-county area. In 2005, Santa Cruz County had 113 organic farmers compared to 99 in Monterey County and 46 in San Benito County. However, compared to Santa Cruz

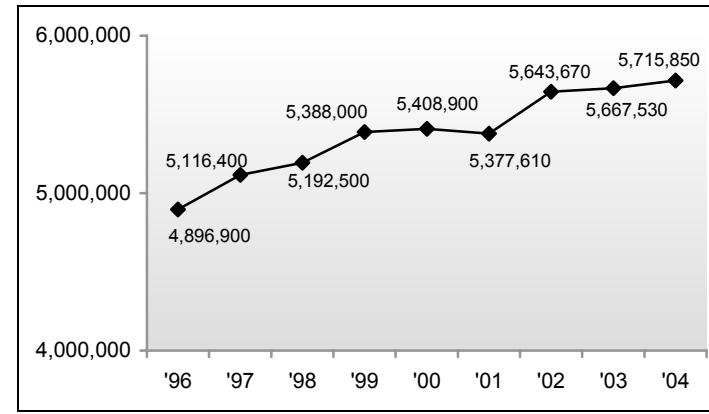
County, San Benito County had twice and Monterey County had over five times the number of organic acres planted. The number of organic acres in Santa Cruz County continues to grow; from 1999 to 2005, the number of organic acres increased 32.6% and organic sales have risen 471.4%.



The year 2005 saw a 25.2% increase in motor vehicle registrations from 1996, compared to a 12.0% increase in the population 16 years of age and older. Vehicles per each adult aged 16 and older increased from 1.03 in 1996

to 1.15 in 2005. Statewide, car registrations increased by 29.6%, compared to a 17.2% increase in population of those 16 and older. Daily vehicle miles traveled increased 16.7% in Santa Cruz County between 1996 and 2004. Monterey, San Mateo, and Santa Clara counties saw a smaller increases than Santa Cruz County in daily vehicle miles traveled during this time, while San Benito County saw a 27.7% increase, the largest of the neighboring counties.

Roadway Congestion




✓ Daily vehicle miles traveled in Santa Cruz County.

Annual rider ship on alternative transportation (Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit, Highway 17 Express Bus, and Liftline) declined by 16.8% overall from 1994-95 to 2004-05. However, ridership on Liftline increased 205.3% during the same time period. Additionally, the number of bikeway miles in Santa Cruz County has increased steadily over the past twelve years, from 67.9 miles in 1994 to 99.7 miles in 2005. About the same percentage of survey respondents reported frequent use of alternative transportation other than their own car in 2005 as in 2000 (21.2% and 21.3%, respectively). When asked what would encourage respondents to use alternative forms of transportation, the most common responses have been “nothing” and “convenience/more frequent bus schedule.”

QUALITY OF LIFE INDICATOR 102

 **Concern for the Environment**

The natural environment is one of Santa Cruz County's greatest strengths.

 *What one thing concerns you the most about the natural environment?
(Selected Responses)*

Response	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2005
Water pollution	11.2	13.2	17.0	12.8	14.7	23.7
Traffic / Too many cars	4.7	15.0	13.5	9.1	6.3	17.6
Development of open space / Agricultural land	12.7	10.1	8.7	9.9	9.3	12.5
Air pollution (primarily car emissions)	14.8	9.8	18.9	14.6	13.0	12.1
Overpopulation	5.2	11.6	14.7	9.3	8.5	11.6
Pollution	8.0	27.8	16.5	18.6	16.1	7.8
Litter	2.4	3.3	3.1	3.5	4.7	7.4
No preservation of natural environment / Wildlife	8.3	10.5	7.7	7.0	10.2	5.1
Water quality	7.4	12.1	5.8	4.3	4.7	4.7
Pesticides / Herbicides	3.6	5.3	3.4	3.3	5.2	3.6
Cutting down trees / Commercial logging	3.3	5.6	5.5	3.7	3.2	3.2
Water availability / Salt water intrusion	1.8	2.0	5.6	1.5	1.5	3.2

Year 2005: 553 respondents offering 680 responses.

Source: Santa Cruz County Community Assessment Project, *Telephone Survey*, 2005.

 **New data not available**

Habitat Preservation

Santa Cruz County takes special steps to protect acreage from development and reserves some land for special status plant and animal species, recreation, education, and research.

Summary of Protected Santa Cruz County Habitat Acres

	Acres						Acres per 1,000 People					
	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Land Trusts ¹	4,386.1	4,386.2	4,658.4	4,362.5	4,362.5	4,741.5	17.1	17.0	17.9	16.9	16.8	18.1
Coastal Wetlands ²	899	899	899	899	899	899	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.4
County and City Parks	3,823.3	4,511.3	4,560.3	4,560.3	4,647.1	4,645.2	14.9	17.5	17.6	17.9	17.9	17.7
State Parks	43,912	43,912	43,912	43,974	45,606	46,623	170.8	169.9	169.0	176.2	175.2	177.7
Open Space Easement Lands	4,318	4,318	3,818	3,818	4,328	4,303.5	16.8	16.7	14.7	16.7	16.6	16.4
Williamson Act Lands	17,302	19,655	19,350	19,349	16,187	16,401	67.3	76.1	74.5	62.5	62.2	62.5
Fish and Game Lands ³	1,318	1,318	1,494	1,496	1,745	1,745	5.1	5.1	5.8	6.7	6.7	6.7
Total Protected Acres in Santa Cruz County	75,958.4	78,999.5	78,691.7	78,458.8	77,774.6	79,358.2	295.4	305.7	302.9	300.4	298.9	302.5
Total Acres in Santa Cruz County	286,739	286,739	286,739	286,739	286,739	286,739	1,115.3	1,109.7	1,103.7	1,107.6	1,101.8	1,093.0
Percent Protected Acres	26.5	27.6	27.4	27.4	27.1	27.7	-	-	-	-	-	-

Source: Land Trust of Santa Cruz County, Santa Cruz Coastal Commission, Santa Cruz County Tax Assessor's Office, Trust for Public Lands, California Department of Fish and Game, and California State Parks, 2006. Population figures for 1999-2003: State of California, Department of Finance, *Race/Ethnic Population with Age and Sex Detail, 1970-2040*. Sacramento, California, December 1998. Population figures for 2004-2006: State of California, Department of Finance, *E-1: City/County Population Estimates with Annual Percent Change, 2006*.

Note: Annual differences in acreage may be due to rounding and / or variations in estimates by landholders. Open space easements restrict the use of privately owned property to a particular use (generally, undeveloped) under the Open Space Easement Act of 1974. Property owners receive a property tax reduction as an incentive to preserve their property in an undeveloped condition. The Williamson Act of 1965 offered property tax reductions to private landowners contracting to preserve farmland. Each year, the County is reimbursed by the state for a portion of the tax revenue lost through Williamson Act and Open Space Easement contracts. Totals have been recalculated to reflect the addition of Open Space Easement Lands to this table, this year.

¹Total reflects a deduction of 5406 acres of Coast Dairy Land as that acreage is included in the Williamson Act Lands.

²Data about Coastal Wetland acreage are from a report published in 1994 that has not been updated since. It is likely the number of Coastal Wetlands acreage has changed since that time.

³Fish and Game owned 897 acres and administered 421 additional acres during years 1999-2001. In 2002-2003, Fish and Game owned 1,056 acres and administered an additional 442 acres. In 2005, Fish and Game owned 1,303 acres and administered an additional 442 acres.

QUALITY OF LIFE INDICATOR 104

Open Space - Acreage

Open Space in Santa Cruz County contributes to the community's quality of life.



Park Name	Steward	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Adams Ranch	Land Trust	NA	NA	NA	NA	76.67	76.67	76.67
Aldridge Lane ⁴	County	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	3.0	3.0
Anna Jean Cummings Park ¹	County	96.5	96.5	96.5	96.5	96.5	96.5	96.5
Aptos Village County Park	County	12.5	12.5	12.5	12.5	12.5	8.7	8.7
Arana Gulch	City	63	63	63	63	63	63	63
Bear Creek Redwoods	County / Special District	NA	NA	NA	11	48.99	48.99	48.99
Ben Lomond / Wilder Hall/ Library ⁴	County	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	1.1	1.1
Bert Scott Estate	County	30	30	30	30	30	30	30
Big Basin	Sempervirens	250	250	250	250	250	250	600
Brommer Park ⁴	County	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	7.6	7.6
Byrne Forest / Corralitos Mountains	Land Trust	322	322	322	322	322	322	322
Castle Rock	Sempervirens	NA	11	11	11	11	11	40
Circle P Ranch	Land Trust	684	684	684	684	684	684	684
Coast Dairies Property	Land Trust	7,000	7,000	7,000	7,000	7,000	7,000	7,000
Coffee Lane ⁴	County						2.7	2.7
DeLaveaga	City	565	565	565	565	565	565	565
Depot Park ⁴	City	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	7	7
Felt Street ⁴	County	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	0.8	0.8
Felton Covered Bridge Park ⁴	County	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	6.3	6.3
Floral Park ⁴	County	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	0.9	0.9
Freedom Lake	County	34	34	34	34	34	34	34
Glenwood Open Space	Land Trust / City of Scott's Valley	NA	NA	NA	163.09	163.09	163.09	163.09
Greyhound Rock ²	State / County	70	70	70	70	70	70	70
Harvey West	City	55	55	55	55	55	55	55

¹Formerly O'Neil Ranch.

²State owned and county managed.

³Includes land held in partnership with other agencies.

⁴Data for these parks included for the first time in 2005.

⁵Land Trust of Santa Cruz has stewardship over 85 of 246 acres of Moore Creek Preserve (Bombay).

Open Space - Acreage (continued)

Park Name	Steward	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Hestwood Park ⁴	County	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	0.6	0.6
Hidden Beach ⁴	County	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	1.5	3.25
Highlands Park	County	26.1	26.1	26.1	26.1	26.1	26.1	26.1
John's Canyon	Land Trust	60	60	60	60	60	60	60
Jose Avenue Park ⁴	County	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	3.5	3.5
Lighthouse Field	State / City	38	38	38	38	38	38	38
Lodato Park	City	49	49	49	49	49	49	49
Long Ridge Preserve	County / Special District	765.2	765.2	765.2	765.2	765.2	765.2	765.2
Mesa Village ⁴	County	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	2.1	2.1
Michael Gray Field ⁴	County	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	3.0	3.0
Miller Property	County	NA	400	400	400	400	400	400
Moore Creek Corridor / Antonelli Pond	Land Trust	18.2	18.2	18.2	18.2	18.2	18.2	18.2
Moore Creek Preserve (Bombay) ⁵	City / Land Trust	246	246	246	246	246	246	246
Moran Lake ⁴	County	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	9.2	9.2
Neary Lagoon	City	44	44	44	44	44	44	44
Pace Family Wilderness Preserve	County	80	80	80	80	80	80	80
Pajaro Dune ⁴	County	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	5.0	5.0
Pinto Lake City Park	City	78	78	78	78	78	78	78
Pinto Lake County Park	County	183	183	183	183	183	183	183
Place de Mer ⁴	County	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	3.0	3.0
Pogonip	City	640	640	640	640	640	640	640
Polo Grounds County Park	County	61.5	61.5	61.5	61.5	61.5	61.5	61.5
Quail Hollow Ranch	County	300	300	300	300	300	300	300
Ramsay Park	City	32	32	32	32	32	32	32

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⁴Data for these parks included for the first time in 2005.

⁵Land Trust of Santa Cruz has stewardship over 85 of 246 acres of Moore Creek Preserve (Bombay).

QUALITY OF LIFE INDICATOR 104

Open Space - Acreage (continued)

Park Name	Steward	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Richard Vessey ⁴	County	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	0.5	0.5
San Lorenzo River Redwoods	Sempervirens	1,340	1,340	1,340	1,340	1,069	1,069	1,069
Santa Cruz Gardens ⁴	County	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	1.9	1.9
Scott Creek Beach and Bluffs	County	39.5	39.5	39.5	39.5	39.5	39.5	35.9
Scott Park ⁴	County	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	4.5	4.5
Seascape Park ⁴	County	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	6.0	6.0
Sierra Azul Preserve	County / Special District	NA	NA	688	688	688	688	688
Simpkins Family Swim Center ⁴	County	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	9.0	9.0
Soquel Lions ⁴	County	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	0.2	0.2
Twin Lakes ⁴	County	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	1.4	1.4
Valencia Hall ⁴	County	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	0.8	0.8
Willowbrook ⁴	County	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	2.7	2.7
Winkle Farm ⁴	County	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	6.3	6.3
Total County and City Parks ³		3,423.3	3,823.3	4,511.3	4,560.3	4,560.3	4,647.1	4,645.2
Total Open Space Acres in County		12,498.5	13,593.5	14,281.5	14,493.6	14,299.3	14,386.1	14,763.2
Total Acres in County		286,739	286,739	286,739	286,739	286,739	286,739	286,739
Percent Open Space Acres		4.4	4.7	5.0	5.1	5.0	5.0	5.1
County Population		255,100	257,100	258,400	259,800	260,200	260,240	262,351
Open Space Acres per 1,000 residents		52.9	55.3	55.8	55.0	55.0	55.3	56.3

Source: Land Trust of Santa Cruz County, Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District, Sempervirens Fund, Trust for Public Lands, County of Santa Cruz Parks, Open Space and Cultural Services, City of Santa Cruz Parks and Recreation Department, City of Scotts Valley Parks Department, and City of Watsonville Parks and Recreation Department, 2006. Population figures for 1999-2003: State of California, Department of Finance, *Revised Historical City, County and State Population Estimates, 1991-2000, with 1990 and 2000 Census Counts*, Sacramento, California, March 2002. Population figures for 2004-2006: State of California Department of Finance, *E-4 Population Estimates for Cities, Counties and the State, 2001-2006, with 2000 DRU Benchmark*, Sacramento, California, 2006.

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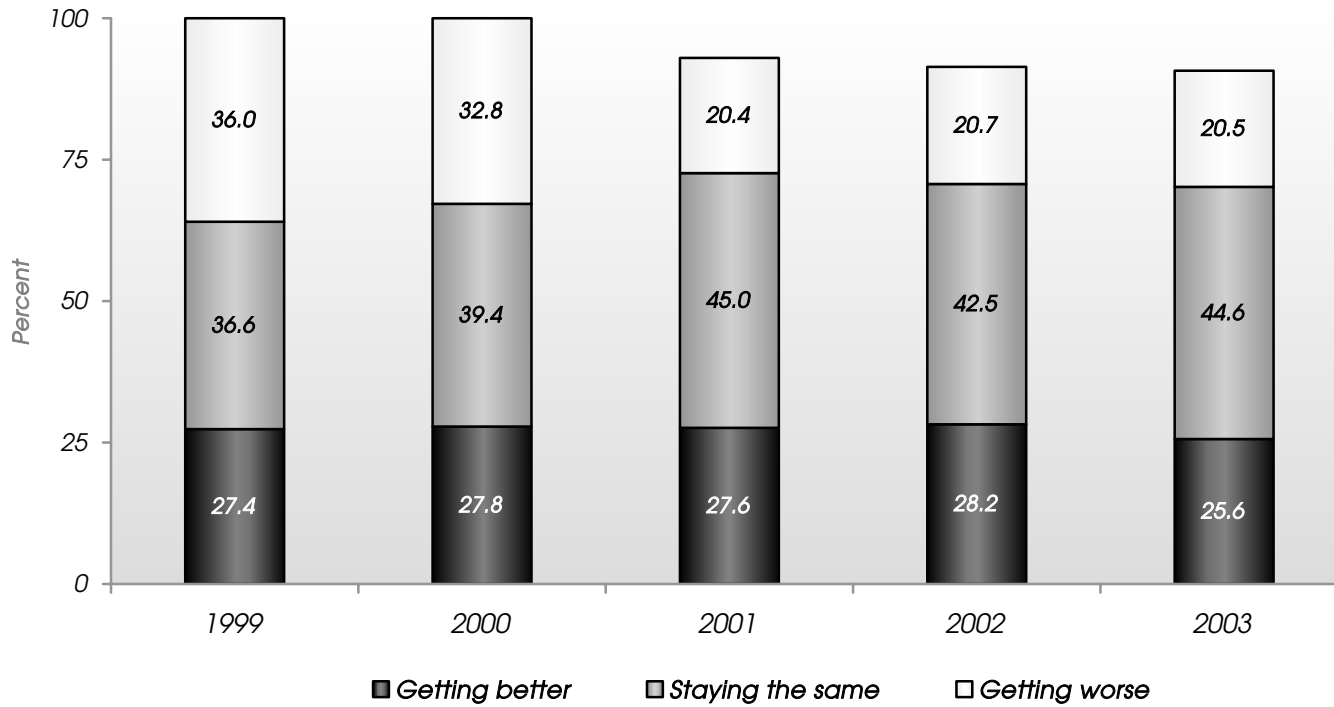
³Includes land held in partnership with other agencies.

⁴Data for these parks included for the first time in 2005.

⁵Land Trust of Santa Cruz has stewardship over 85 of 246 acres of Moore Creek Preserve (Bombay).

Open Space - 1999-2003

How are we doing as a County to preserve open space?



Total respondents	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
Overall	541	627	704	680	701

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.

 **New data not available**

QUALITY OF LIFE INDICATOR 104

Open Space - 1999-2003

Community Profile

Percent of respondents who think the County is “Getting better” at preserving open space:

By Ethnicity	1999	2000	2001	2002	*2003	2003 N
Caucasian	26.0	27.4	25.2	22.4	23.5	489
Latino	35.2	32.1	38.6	48.2	36.3	158

By Region	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2003 N
North County	26.6	22.1	26.9	24.7	20.7	235
South County	31.7	37.3	29.9	33.5	31.6	242
San Lorenzo Valley	22.0	28.7	26.1	26.5	27.0	224

By Age	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2003 N
18-24	17.7	21.1	29.1	28.5	16.9	109
25-44	29.1	27.7	26.8	27.6	27.3	229
45-64	26.7	31.8	30.6	30.4	26.9	252
65 and older	34.2	26.7	23.2	24.9	27.6	111

By Gender	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2003 N
Male	29.0	32.2	27.5	28.7	26.0	348
Female	25.9	24.7	27.7	27.6	25.2	354

By Income	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2003 N
\$34,999 per year or less	30.6	27.7	26.4	29.8	28.0	331
\$35,000 - \$65,499	32.4	27.3	27.2	25.3	23.8	164
\$65,500 and greater	19.5	30.9	26.5	29.4	24.2	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.

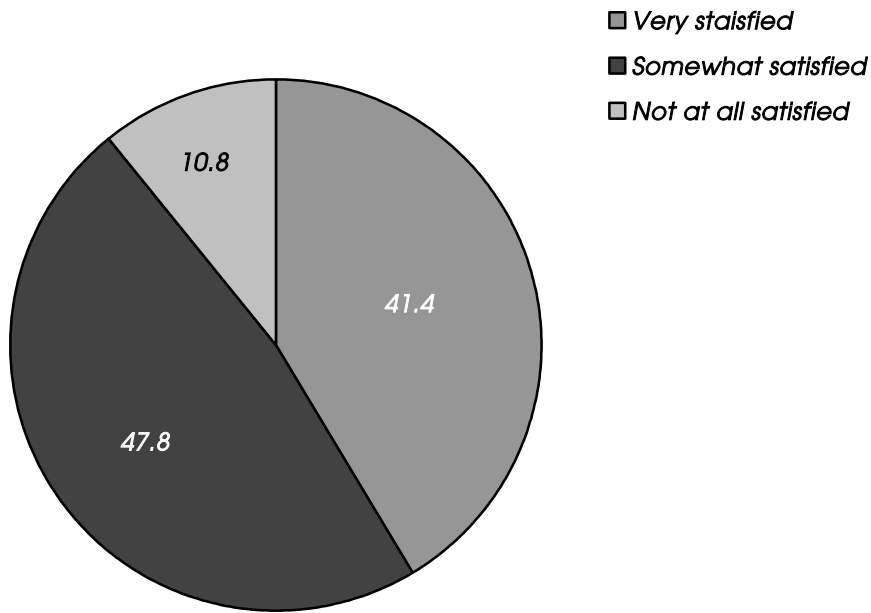
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Significance Testing

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

Open Space - 2005

How satisfied are you with what the County is doing to preserve open space such as wildlife habitat and farmland?



Total respondents	2005
Overall	652

Source: Santa Cruz County Community Assessment Project, *Telephone Survey*, 2005.

 **New data not available**

QUALITY OF LIFE INDICATOR 104

Open Space - 2005

Community Profile

Percent of respondents who answered “Very satisfied” to:
 “How satisfied are you with what the County is doing to preserve open space such as wildlife habitat and farmland?”

By Ethnicity	*2005	2005 N
Caucasian	40.2	458
Latino	49.4	147

By Region	2005	2005 N
North County	45.9	225
South County	36.9	217
San Lorenzo Valley	45.1	212

By Age	*2005	2005 N
18-24	56.5	63
25-44	40.9	209
45-64	41.8	241
65 and older	34.3	137

By Gender	2005	2005 N
Male	43.9	323
Female	39.0	328

By Income	*2005	2005 N
\$34,999 per year or less	36.1	248
\$35,000 - \$65,499	49.6	121
\$65,500 and greater	42.4	224

Source: Santa Cruz County Community Assessment Project, *Telephone Survey*, 2005.

* Indicates statistically significant survey responses when reporting differences between sub-groups for the 2005 data. Absence of this symbol indicates no statistical significance difference between sub-groups for the 2005 data.

 **New data not available**

Significance Testing

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

Age: *18-24 year olds* were significantly more likely to respond “Very satisfied” than were those *65 and older*.

Income: Those earning *\$35,000 to \$64,499* were significantly more likely to respond “Very satisfied” than were those earning *\$34,999 or less*.

Land Trust - Acreage

Land trusts work with private parties and public agencies to permanently protect land through purchase and/or donation.



Location	Year Acquired	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Adams Ranch (conservation easement)	2003	NA	NA	NA	76.67	76.67	76.67	76.67
Alfadel Lane (Soquel)	1983	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5
Bear Creek Road (conservation easement)	1994	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.4
Big Basin	1993	250	250	250	250	250	250	600
Byrne Forest / Corralitos Mountains	1984	322	322	322	322	322	322	322
Castle Rock	2001	NA	11	11	11	11	11	40
Circle P Ranch (conservation easement)	2001	NA	684	684	684	684	684	684
Coast Dairies	1998	7,000	7,000	7,000	7,000	7,000	7,000	7,000
Davenport Bluffs	2001	NA	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
El Dorado (conservation easement)	2003	NA	NA	NA	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3
Fairway Drive	2000	8.21	8.21	8.21	8.21	8.21	8.21	8.21
Glenwood – Lot E	2003	NA	NA	NA	1.53	1.53	1.53	1.53
Glenwood Openspace (conservation easement)	2003	NA	NA	NA	163.09	163.09	163.09	163.09
Greenspace (neighborhood park- Soquel)	1985	0.15	0.15	0.15	0.15	0.15	0.15	0.15
Highfield Greenbelt	1999	3.9	3.9	3.9	3.9	3.9	3.9	3.9
Johns Canyon (conservation easement)	1999	60	60	60	60	60	60	60
Moore Creek Corridor / Antonelli Pond	1982 / 1994	18.2	18.2	18.2	18.2	18.2	18.2	18.2
Moore Creek Preserve (Bombay)	1998	85	85	85	85	85	85	85
Rowell / Clinton Street Riparian Corridor (conservation easement)	2002	NA	NA	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.14

Source: Land Trust of Santa Cruz County, Sempervirens Fund, and Trust for Public Land, 2006.

Note: Coast Dairies is held by Trust for Public Land; Big Basin, Castle Rock, and San Lorenzo River Redwoods are held by Sempervirens; all other parcels are held by the Land Trust of Santa Cruz County. The Trust for Public Land will turn over Coast Dairies to a long-term steward (State Parks / Bureau of Land Management) in the near future. The Land Trust of Santa Cruz County has stewardship over 85 of 246 acres of Moore Creek Preserve (Bombay), which is a City of Santa Cruz greenbelt. The San Lorenzo River Redwoods owned by the Sempervirens Fund may soon be turned over to Castle Rock State Park.

QUALITY OF LIFE INDICATOR 105

Land Trust - Acreage (continued)

Location	Year Acquired	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
San Lorenzo River Redwoods	2000	1,340	1,340	1,340	1,340	1,069	1,069	1,069
Shingle Mill Creek	2004	NA	NA	NA	NA	.07	.07	.07
Sumner / Hidden Beach Trail (conservation easement)	2003	NA	NA	NA	3.25	3.25	3.25	3.25
Swanton Road (conservation easement)	1986	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.7
Whitewater Cove (conservation easement)	2003	NA	NA	NA	0.40	0.40	0.40	0.40
Total Land Trust Acres in Santa Cruz County	-	9,096.1	9,792.1	9,792.1	10,064.44	9,768.51	9,768.51	10,147.51
Total Acres in Santa Cruz County	-	286,739	286,739	286,739	286,739	286,739	286,739	286,739
Percent Land Trust Acres	-	3.2	3.4	3.4	3.5	3.4	3.4	3.5
Santa Cruz County Population	-	255,100	257,100	258,400	259,800	258,886	260,240	262,351
Land Trust Acres per 1,000 residents	-	35.7	38.1	37.9	38.7	37.7	37.5	38.7

Source: Land Trust of Santa Cruz County, Sempervirens Fund, and Trust for Public Land, 2006. Population figures for 1990-2003: State of California, Department of Finance, *Race/Ethnic Population with Age and Sex Detail, 1970-2040*. Sacramento, California, December 1998. Population figures for 2004-2006: State of California, Department of Finance, *E-1: City/County Population Estimates with Annual Percent Change, 2006*.

Note: Coast Dairies is held by Trust for Public Land; Big Basin, Castle Rock, and San Lorenzo River Redwoods are held by Sempervirens; all other parcels are held by the Land Trust of Santa Cruz County. The Trust for Public Land will turn over Coast Dairies to a long-term steward (State Parks / Bureau of Land Management) in the near future. The Land Trust of Santa Cruz County has stewardship over 85 of 246 acres of Moore Creek Preserve (Bombay), which is a City of Santa Cruz greenbelt. The San Lorenzo River Redwoods owned by the Sempervirens Fund may soon be turned over to Castle Rock State Park.

State Park Acreage ¹

Park	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Henry Cowell (Fall Creek)	4,320	4,320	4,320	4,320	4,320	4,320	4316
Nisene Marks	10,188	10,188	10,188	10,188	10,222	10,222	10,222
Manresa	138	138	138	138	138	138	138
Santa Cruz Mission	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Natural Bridges	59	59	59	59	59	59	59
New Brighton	163	166	166	166	166	157	157
Seacliff State Beach (Rio)	85	87	87	87	87	86	87
Sunset State Beach (Palm)	298	302	302	302	302	300	300
Twin Lakes	94	94	94	94	94	94	94
Wilder Ranch (Gray Whale)	6,903	6,903	6,903	6,903	6,903	6,903	7,934
Big Basin (Rancho del Oso) ²	18,004	18,004	18,004	18,004	18,032	18,032	18,033
Castle Rock ²	3,611	3,611	3,611	3,611	3,611	5,254	5,242
Lighthouse Field State Park ³	38	38	38	38	38	38	38
Castro Adobe	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	1	1
Total State Park Acres in Santa Cruz County	43,903	43,912	43,912	43,912	43,974	45,606	46,623
Total Acres in Santa Cruz County	286,739	286,739	286,739	286,739	286,739	286,739	286,739
Percent Park Acres	15.3	15.3	15.3	15.3	15.3	15.9	16.3
Santa Cruz County Population	255,100	257,100	258,400	259,800	258,886	260,240	262,351
Park Acres per 1,000 residents	172.10	170.80	169.94	169.02	169.86	175.25	177.7

Source: California State Parks Department, 2006. Population figures for 1996-2003: State of California, Department of Finance, *Race/Ethnic Population with Age and Sex Detail, 1970-2040*. Sacramento, California, December 1998. Population figures for 2004-2006: State of California, Department of Finance, *E-1: City / County Population Estimates with Annual Percent Change, 2006*.

Note: Some differences in acreage between years may be due to rounding and variations in estimates by State Park Administration.

¹Park land acreage is based on estimates only. Precise acreage data are not available.

²A portion of Big Basin lies in San Mateo County. A portion of Castle Rock lies in San Mateo County and Santa Clara County.

³Lighthouse Field State Park is owned by the State and maintained by the City of Santa Cruz.

QUALITY OF LIFE INDICATOR 107

Miles of Recreation Trails

Recreation mileage has been set aside for non-motorized recreation activities such as hiking, biking, and horseback riding.

Recreation Trails by Location and Length in Miles

Park	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Henry Cowell (Fall Creek)	36	36	35	35	35	35	43
Nisene Marks	27	27	25	25	25	25.3	25.3
Manresa	2	2	1	1	1.3	1.3	1.3
Santa Cruz Mission	0.1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Natural Bridges	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
New Brighton	2	2	1	0.5	0.5	0.5	3
Portola Redwoods	NA	NA	17	16.5	16.5	16.5	16.5
Seacliff State Beach (Rio)	1	1	1	0.4	0.4	0.4	2
Sunset State Beach (Palm)	2	2	1	1.45	1.45	1.45	4
Twin Lakes	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Wilder Ranch	49	49	36	36	36	36	36
Big Basin	83	83	83	84	84	84	84
Castle Rock	35	35	27	27	27	27	27
Lighthouse Field State Park ¹	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Santa Cruz County Total²	241	241	231	231	231	231	246
Number of people per mile of recreation trail	1,070	1,078	1,127	1,125	1,121	1,127	1,066

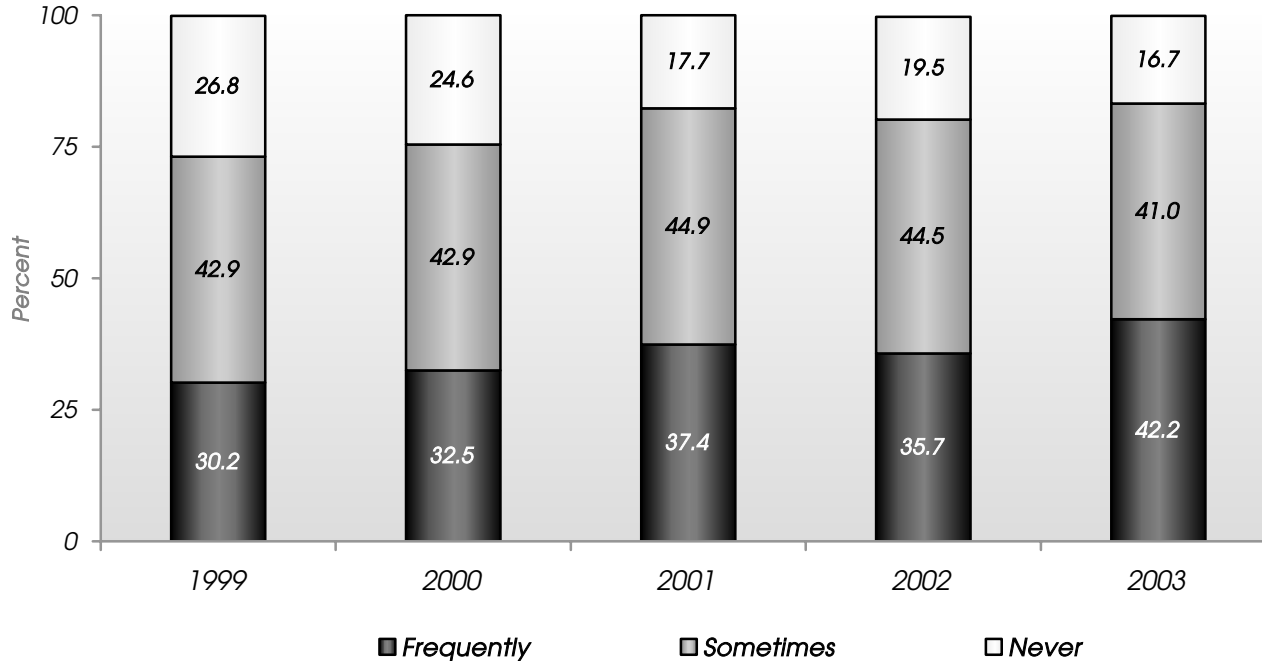
Source: California State Parks Department, 2006. Population figures for 1996-2003: State of California, Department of Finance, *Race/Ethnic Population with Age and Sex Detail, 1970-2040*. Sacramento, California, December 1998. Population figures for 2004-2006: State of California, Department of Finance, *E-1: City / County Population Estimates with Annual Percent Change, 2006*.

¹Owned by the State of California and maintained by the City of Santa Cruz.

²County Totals have been rounded.

Park Use - 1999-2003

How often do you or your family members use neighborhood parks?



Total respondents	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
Overall	559	658	706	684	700

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.

 **New data not available**

QUALITY OF LIFE INDICATOR 108

 **Park Use - 1999-2003**

 **Community Profile**

Percent of respondents who said they or their family members use neighborhood parks “Frequently”:

By Ethnicity	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2003 N
Caucasian	28.1	33.3	38.4	37.7	45.4	488
Latino	42.7	30.3	35.8	32.9	34.1	158

By Region	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2003 N
North County	30.4	34.4	37.7	40.1	45.3	235
South County	30.1	29.7	35.2	30.2	37.3	241
San Lorenzo Valley	30.0	31.0	43.6	33.8	44.7	225

By Age	1999	2000	2001	2002	*2003	2003 N
18-24	25.6	27.2	41.3	49.5	41.0	109
25-44	40.7	38.5	50.6	42.6	56.5	229
45-64	26.4	32.3	35.1	33.0	37.7	251
65 and older	14.8	21.3	20.8	20.3	24.5	111

By Gender	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2003 N
Male	30.0	29.5	41.7	36.9	42.5	345
Female	30.2	34.5	33.0	34.6	42.0	355

By Income	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2003 N
\$34,999 per year or less	28.7	30.3	29.9	36.1	40.8	309
\$35,000 - \$65,499	33.3	30.9	39.9	37.0	44.2	164
\$65,500 and greater	28.9	38.7	45.5	36.9	45.3	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.

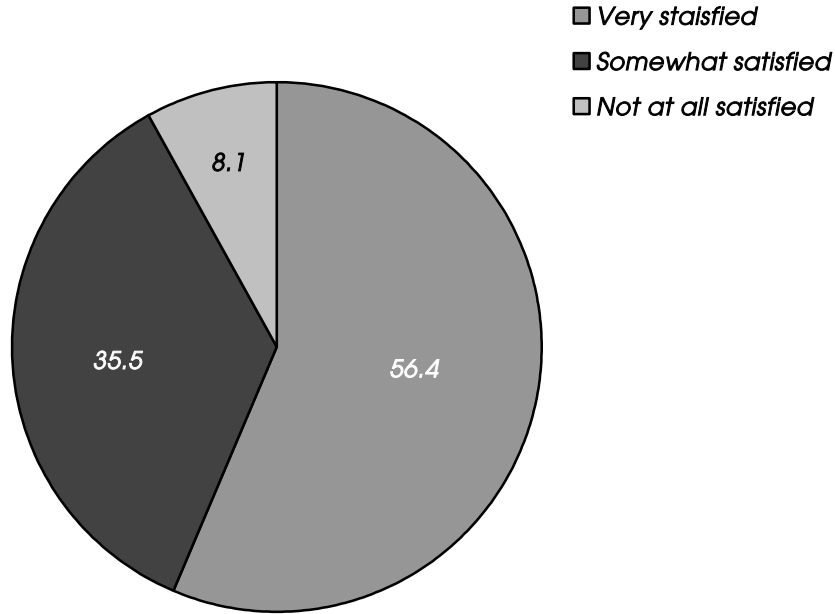
 **New data not available**

Significance Testing

Age: *25-44 year olds* were significantly more likely to respond that they “Frequently” used neighborhood parks than were *45-64 year olds* or those *65 and older*.

Park Use - 2005

How satisfied are you with the parks in your neighborhood?



Total respondents	2005
Overall	670

Source: Santa Cruz County Community Assessment Project, *Telephone Survey*, 2005.

 **New data not available**

QUALITY OF LIFE INDICATOR 108

 **Park Use - 2005**

 **Community Profile**

Percent of Respondents who answered “Very satisfied” to: “How satisfied are you with the parks in your neighborhood?”

By Ethnicity	*2005	2005 N
Caucasian	57.8	463
Latino	48.7	156

By Region	*2005	2005 N
North County	57.3	233
South County	53.4	223
San Lorenzo Valley	64.8	213

By Age	2005	2005 N
18-24	47.5	62
25-44	59.8	215
45-64	56.7	259
65 and older	54.3	131

By Gender	2005	2005 N
Male	53.0	329
Female	59.7	340

By Income	*2005	2005 N
\$34,999 per year or less	52.2	254
\$35,000 - \$65,499	54.0	123
\$65,500 and greater	65.5	231

Source: Santa Cruz County Community Assessment Project, *Telephone Survey*, 2005.

* Indicates statistically significant survey responses when reporting differences between sub-groups for the 2005 data. Absence of this symbol indicates no statistical significance difference between sub-groups for the 2005 data.

 **New data not available**

Significance Testing

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

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

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

Farmland - Acreage

Farmland in Santa Cruz County provides both revenue and open space for residents. Changes to agricultural land, including conversion to urban uses, is monitored by the California Department of Conservation.

Farmland Acreage by Type of Production

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	96-05 % Change
Berries	4,563	4,815	4,286	5,500 ¹	5,500 ¹	5,527 ¹	5,502	5,799	5,755	6,114	34.0
Tree and Fruit Vines	4,077	3,842	3,654	3,522	3,541	3,664	3,381	3,514	3,539	3,388	-16.9
Vegetables	12,590	12,726	10,955	9,996	9,159	9,658	8,366	9,409	9,533	10,444	-17.0
Nursery and Ornamental Crops	1,296	1,422	1,422	1,612	1,395	1,474	1,132 ¹	1,284 ¹	1,274	1,213	-6.4
Field Crops and Pasture Land	8,700	8,700	8,600	8,350	8,400 ¹	7,900	3,110	2,553	2,153	5,689	-34.6
Total Acres	31,226	31,787	28,917	28,980¹	27,995¹	28,223¹	21,589	22,559¹	22,254	26,848	-14.0

Source: Santa Cruz County Agricultural Commissioner, *Santa Cruz County 2005 Crop Report*, 2006.

¹Figures revised.

Definitions of Farmland

Prime Farmland is land that has the best combination of physical and chemical characteristics for the production of crops. It has the soil quality, growing season, and moisture supply needed to produce sustained high yields of crops when treated and managed, including water management, according to current farming methods.

Farmland of Statewide Importance is land other than Prime Farmland that has a good combination of physical and chemical characteristics for the production of crops.

Unique Farmland is land which does not meet the criteria for Prime Farmland or Farmland of Statewide Importance, and that has been used for the production of specific high economic value crops.

Farmland of Local Importance is either currently producing crops or has the capability of production. This is land other than the three definitions above.

Grazing Land is land on which the existing vegetation, whether grown naturally or through management, is suitable for grazing or browsing of livestock. The minimum mapping unit is 40 acres.

QUALITY OF LIFE INDICATOR 109

Farmland - Acreage

Farmland in Santa Cruz County provides both revenue and open space for residents.

Santa Cruz County Agricultural Land Use by Category

Type of Land	1990	1992	1994	1996	1998	2000	2002	2004	02-04 ¹ Net Change
Total Important Farmland:	25,371	25,551	25,254	25,219	25,498	25,509 ¹	25,274	24,605	-669
- Prime Farmland	17,392	17,401	17,262	17,230	17,179	17,030 ¹	15,507	15,181	-326
- Statewide Importance	3,082	3,124	3,114	3,068	3,057	3,215 ¹	3,367	3,268	-99
- Unique	4,251	4,334	4,160	4,203	4,393	4,395 ¹	5,589	5,399	-190
- Local Importance	646	692	718	718	869	869	811	757	-54
Grazing Land	16,818	16,791	16,615	16,187	16,718	16,587	16,727	16,868	141
Total Acres of Agricultural Land	42,189	42,342	41,869	41,406	42,216	42,096¹	42,001	41,473	-528
- Percent Agricultural Land	14.7	14.8	14.6	14.4	14.7	14.7	14.6	14.5	-0.1
Total Acres of Urban and Built up Land	27,205	27,504	27,585	27,719	28,588	29,293	31,092	31,421	329
- Percent Urban and Built up Land	9.5	9.6	9.7	9.7	10.0	10.2 ¹	10.8	11	0.2

Agricultural Land Converted to Urban Use in Acres

Type of Land	1990-1992	1992-1994	1994-1996	1996-1998	1998-2000	2000-2002	2002-2004	90-04 Net Conversion
Prime Farmland	30	20	56	39	50	217	94	506
Statewide Importance	9	0	22	0	25	40	43	139
Unique	0	0	0	0	29	23	25	77
Local Importance	0	0	0	0	0	3	2	5
Grazing	0	0	0	49	45	53	16	163
Total Agricultural Acres Converted	39	20	78	88	149	336	180	890

Source: California Department of Conservation, Division of Land Resource Protection, *Farmland Conversion Reports*, 2006.

Notes: Reports are published biennially (every two years), and are available two years after the data they address. County acreage used to calculate percents is that used by the Department of Conservation: 286,739.

¹ Net change is calculated from 2002 to 2004 because acreage data changed in 2002 due to the incorporation of digital soil survey data (SSURGO).

Farmland - California Central Coast Organic Farms

Fifteen percent of the total acres of fruits and vegetables grown in Santa Cruz County are grown organically.¹

Number of Organic Growers

County	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	99-05 % Change
Monterey	54	61	70	64	76	83	99	83.3
San Benito	33	40	37	39	47	44	46	39.4
San Luis Obispo	55	64	61	58	55	57	67	21.8
Santa Clara	18	23	20	16	23	24	24	33.3
Santa Cruz	85	78	82	79	97	95	113	32.9
Total	245	266	265	250	298	303	349	42.4

Organic Acres

County	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	99-05 % Change
Monterey	6,771	5,699	10,745	9,050	10,940	12,429	17,533	158.9
San Benito	3,440	3,821	8,279	6,986	4,911	9,312	7,168	108.4
San Luis Obispo	4,188	1,821	2,289	2,228	2,059	2,514	3,672	-12.3
Santa Clara	493	549	639	525	497	546	483	-2.0
Santa Cruz	2,349	2,224	3,718	2,918	2,464	2,677	3,114	32.6
Total	17,241	14,144	25,669	21,706	20,871	27,478	31,970	85.4

Organic Sales

County	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	99-05 % Change
Monterey	\$17,548,693	\$12,408,110	\$18,131,542	\$27,566,532	\$58,650,201	\$78,178,565	\$111,300,189	534.2
San Benito	11,918,282	12,260,914	14,778,100	10,916,086	17,859,085	37,128,599	40,883,337	243.0
San Luis Obispo	2,748,110	1,934,995	2,711,066	2,716,513	4,254,321	5,693,173	5,960,959	116.9
Santa Clara	4,350,473	2,062,778	2,039,840	2,001,865	3,332,370	3,455,425	3,827,748	-12.0
Santa Cruz	12,221,869	12,367,946	13,634,922	18,350,845	40,948,891	47,621,320	69,841,638	471.4
Total	\$48,787,426	\$41,034,743	\$51,295,471	\$61,551,841	\$125,044,868	\$172,077,082	\$231,813,871	375.2

Source: 1999-2004 data: California Department of Food and Agriculture, State Organic Program, Inspection Compliance Branch, *County Organic Crop and Acreage Report*, 2005. 2005 data: California Department of Food and Agriculture, 2006.

Note: Caution should be used when interpreting data for Organic Sales amounts. Renewal dates for reporting sales vary and may include some months in the previous year or include parts of two crop years. Also, fluctuation may occur when selling products with a long storage life, resulting in low sales one year if crops aren't sold and high sales in another year if both harvests are sold.

¹ Santa Cruz County Agricultural Commissioner, *Santa Cruz County 2004 Crop Report*.

QUALITY OF LIFE INDICATOR 109

Farmland - Conventional and Organic Comparison

Organic Farms - Acres and Sales

County	2003		2004		2005	
	Acres	Sales	Acres	Sales	Acres	Sales
Monterey	10,940	\$58,650,201	12,429	\$78,178,565	17,533	\$111,300,189
San Benito	4,911	17,859,085	9,312	37,128,599	7,168	40,883,337
Santa Cruz	2,464	40,948,891	2,677	47,621,320	3,114	69,841,638
Total	18,315	\$117,485,177	24,418	\$162,928,484	27,815	\$222,025,164

Source: California Department of Food and Agriculture, State Organic Program, Inspection Compliance Branch, *County Organic Crop and Acreage Report*, 2005.

Note: Caution should be used when interpreting data for Organic Sales amounts. Renewal dates for reporting sales vary and may include some months in the previous year or include parts of two crop years. Also, fluctuation may occur when selling products with a long storage life, resulting in low sales one year if crops aren't sold and high sales in another year if both harvests are sold.

All Farms (Conventional and Organic) - Acres and Sales

County	2003		2004		2005	
	Acres	Sales	Acres	Sales	Acres	Sales
Monterey	1,461,731	\$3,453,094,600	1,578,687	\$3,586,742,718	1,549,572	\$3,226,739,000
San Benito	561,902	218,578,000	562,659	243,470,000	NA ¹	NA
Santa Cruz	22,559	363,536,000	22,254	439,005,000	26,848	\$407,486,000
Total	2,046,192	\$4,035,208,600	2,163,600	\$4,269,217,718	NA	NA

Source: Monterey, San Benito, and Santa Cruz Counties Agricultural Commissioners, *2005 Crop Reports*, 2006.

Note: Data for All Farms for 2003-2005 are calculated to include the following crops for Monterey County: vegetable crops, fruit and nut crops, grapes - bearing acres, cut flowers, nursery, field crops, and seed crops. For San Benito County: vegetable and row crops, fruit and nut crops, and field crops. For Santa Cruz County: vegetable crops, fruits, nursery, and field crops. The crops included in the All Farms acres and sales may differ from those included in the Organic Farms acres and sales.

¹ Data is not yet available for the San Benito County *2005 Crop Report*.

Pesticide Use

The number of applications shown in the following charts includes only agricultural production applications and the cumulative acres treated are mostly agricultural. The data do not include “over-the-counter” pesticide sales for home and business use.

Pesticide Use, Pounds Applied

County	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002 ¹	2003	2004	97-04 % Change
Santa Cruz	1,727,669	1,707,094	1,613,475	1,620,596	1,533,447	1,526,084	1,643,653	1,743,551	0.9
Monterey	9,102,605	10,198,858	10,189,162	9,044,485	7,974,257	7,816,905	9,329,417	9,114,603	0.1
Santa Clara	740,533	1,391,915	1,042,956	727,458	713,318	659,457	978,027	865,992	16.9
San Mateo	421,002	424,967	327,671	225,399	221,161	223,193	273,279	223,683	-46.9
State	204,779,717	214,344,905	202,411,602	188,163,033	152,718,393	167,940,097	175,127,171	180,272,161	-12.0

¹ Figures revised.

Pesticide Use, Number of Applications

County	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	97-04 % Change
Santa Cruz	52,490	31,552	44,045	50,595	24,315	26,308	28,768	28,025	-46.6
Monterey	452,461	301,346	431,569	431,317	308,411	301,933	329,992	353,589	-21.9
Santa Clara	28,878	26,270	33,681	30,446	22,701	18,494	24,219	25,272	-12.5
San Mateo	30,402	25,495	30,905	20,482	17,686	17,513	14,633	13,969	-54.1
State	NA	NA	NA	NA	1,884,388	1,903,992	2,063,125	2,088,841	NA

Source: Department of Pesticide Regulation, *Annual Pesticide Use Reports*, 2005. State data: California Department of Pesticide Regulation, *Summary of Pesticide Use Report Data, Indexed by Commodity*, 2005.

Health of County Waterways

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board monitors inventories of major County waterways for the degree to which they are impaired by pollutants.

Percent Impairment of Santa Cruz County Waterways

Name	Total Size	% Impairment					Coho Salmon Habitat?
		1989	1994	1998	2001	2002	
Aptos Creek	10 miles	12.5	50.0	40.0	40.0	84.0	Yes
Carbonera Creek	10 miles	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	No
Lompico Creek	5 miles	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	90.0	No
Pajaro River	49 miles	0.0	0.0 ¹	100.0	100.0	65.3	No
San Lorenzo River	25 miles	20.0	60.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	Yes
Schwan Lake	32 acres	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	71.9	No
Shingle Mill Creek	2 miles	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	80.0	No
Soquel Lagoon	2 acres	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	60.0	No
Valencia Creek	7 miles	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	88.6	No
Waddell Creek (East Branch) ¹	4 miles	100.0	100.0	75.0	75.0	87.5	Yes ¹
Watsonville Slough	300 acres	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	No

Source: California Environmental Protection Agency, Regional Water Resources Control Board, *Recommended 303 (d) Lists and TMDL Priority Schedule*, 2004.

Note: Percentages are for those waterways that have a portion or all of their area/length listed as “impaired.” The State uses three categories to assess the waterway health. “Good” waterways support and enhance designated use with minor or no known impairment of water quality. “Intermediate” waterways support designated use with minor or moderate impairment. “Impaired” waterways do not support designated uses and have moderate to severe impairment of water quality. In 1994, the entire Pajaro River had signs of increasing pollution; water quality was listed as “intermediate,” but not yet “impaired.” By 1998, 100% of the Pajaro River was officially impaired.

¹The steep gradient of the East Branch of Waddell Creek may be inhospitable to Coho Salmon; however they will use the lower portion of East Waddell on some years.

 **New data not available**

QUALITY OF LIFE INDICATOR 112

Health of County Waterways

Inventory of Impaired Santa Cruz County Waterways, 2002

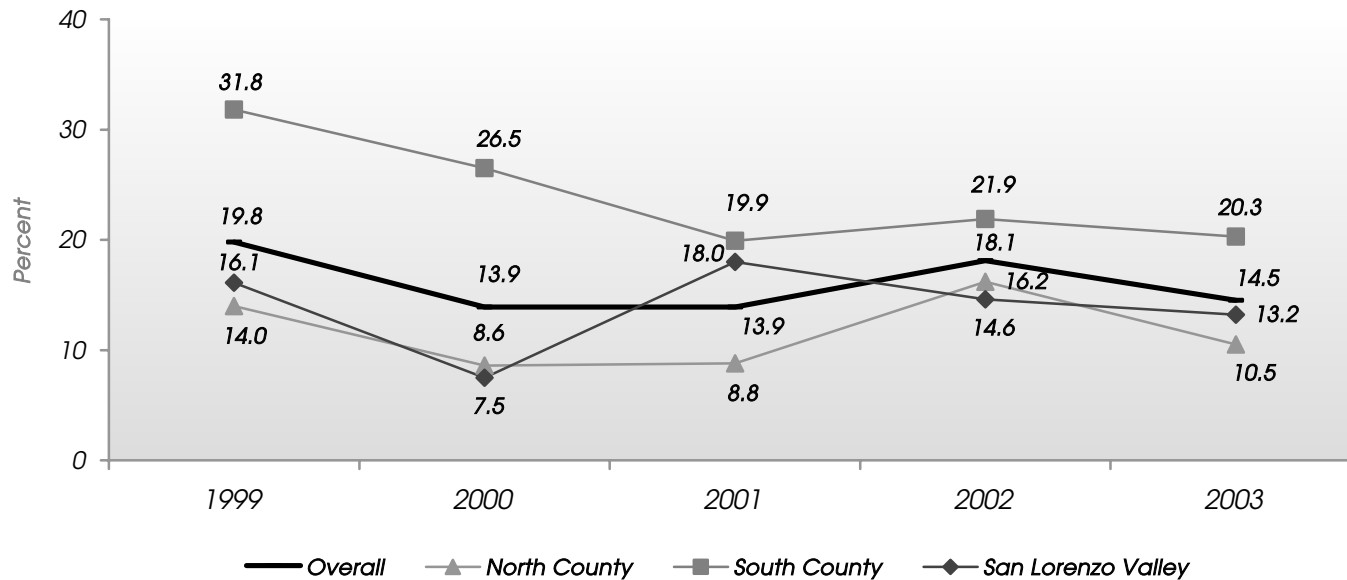
Waterway	Pollutant	Priority	Source
Aptos Creek	Pathogens	Medium	Urban runoff / Storm sewers
	Sedimentation	Low	Disturbed sites (land development) / Channel erosion
Carbonera Creek	Nutrients	Low	Non-point sources
	Pathogens	Medium	Urban runoff / Storm sewers / Non-point sources
	Sedimentation	High	Construction / Land development / Non-point sources
Lompico Creek	Nutrients	Low	Septage disposal
	Pathogens	Medium	Septage disposal / Natural sources / Non-point sources
	Sedimentation	High	Construction / Land development / Natural sources
Pajaro River	Fecal Coliform	Low	Pasture grazing – Riparian and/or upland / Natural sources / Non-point sources
	Nutrients	Medium	Agriculture / Irrigated crop production / Agricultural storm runoff / Agricultural subsurface drainage / Agriculture and irrigation tail water / Agricultural return flows / Urban runoff / Storm sewers / Waste water / Land disposal / Channelization / Removal of riparian vegetation / Non-point sources
	Sedimentation	Medium	Agriculture / Irrigated crop production / Range grazing – Riparian and/or Upland / Agricultural storm runoff / Resource extraction / Surface mining / Hydromodification / Channelization / Habitat modification / Removal of riparian vegetation / Streambed modification/destabilization / Channel erosion
San Lorenzo River	Nutrients	Low	Septage disposal / Non-point sources
	Pathogens	Medium	Urban runoff / Storm sewers / Septage disposal
	Sedimentation	High	Silviculture / Construction / Land development / Urban runoff / Storm sewers
Schwan Lake	Nutrients	Low	Non-point sources
	Pathogens	Medium	Urban runoff / Storm sewers / Natural sources
Shingle Mill Creek	Nutrients	Low	Septage disposal
	Sedimentation	High	Construction / Land development / Non-point sources
Soquel Lagoon	Nutrients	Low	Septage disposal / Non-point sources
	Pathogens	Medium	Urban runoff / Storm sewers / Natural sources / Non-point sources
	Sedimentation	Low	Construction / Land development
Valencia Creek	Pathogens	Medium	Agriculture / Septage disposal
	Sedimentation	Low	Agriculture / Construction / Land development
Waddell Creek (East Branch)	Nutrients	Low	Municipal point sources
Watsonville Slough	Pathogens	Medium	Urban runoff / Storm sewers / Unknown source(s) / Non-point sources
	Pesticides	Low	Agriculture / Irrigated crop production / Agricultural storm runoff / Agricultural irrigation tailwater / Non-point sources
	Sedimentation	Medium	Agriculture / Irrigated crop production / Agricultural storm runoff / Non-point sources

Source: California Environmental Protection Agency, Regional Water Resources Control Board, *Recommended 303(d) List and TMDL Priority Schedule*, 2003.

 **New data not available**

Water Quality - 1999-2003

*How are we doing as a County to address drinking water quality?
(Respondents answering "Getting better")*



Total respondents	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
Overall	500	584	694	682	691
North County	278	304	200	233	232
South County	154	170	286	227	239
San Lorenzo Valley	56	106	211	220	220

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

 **New data not available**

QUALITY OF LIFE INDICATOR 113

Water Quality - 1999-2003

Community Profile

Percent of respondents who think the County is “Getting better” at addressing drinking water quality:

By Ethnicity	1999	2000	2001	2002	*2003	2003 N
Caucasian	16.3	9.7	12.7	14.9	11.2	479
Latino	39.0	29.0	19.4	27.5	25.2	158

By Region	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2003 N
North County	14.0	8.6	8.8	16.2	10.5	232
South County	31.8	26.5	19.9	21.9	20.3	239
San Lorenzo Valley	16.1	7.5	18.0	14.6	13.2	220

By Age	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2003 N
18-24	29.3	21.2	10.9	21.3	21.9	107
25-44	19.1	15.5	12.7	20.6	13.7	225
45-64	17.9	11.0	14.3	15.6	13.5	248
65 and older	16.2	6.0	16.3	16.9	11.5	109

By Gender	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2003 N
Male	17.0	13.2	11.9	17.1	15.2	339
Female	21.9	14.4	15.9	19.0	13.9	352

By Income	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2003 N
\$34,999 per year or less	26.4	18.6	14.5	19.6	15.3	303
\$35,000 - \$64,499	14.6	12.7	12.6	17.5	16.8	163
\$65,500 and greater	14.6	8.4	11.3	18.0	11.7	172

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 “Getting better” than were *Caucasians*.

Beach Warnings and Closures

Beaches are often posted with warnings and closed in response to elevated bacteria levels triggered by sewage spills, storm drain overflows, animals and waterfowl, and agricultural activities. Rainwater infiltration in the lagoons can cause sewage overflows that cause a beach closure.

Beach Closures, Number of Days Posted or Closed

Beach Name	2000		2001		2002		2003		2004		2005	
	Postings	Closures	Postings	Closures	Postings	Closures	Postings	Closures	Postings	Closures	Postings	Closures
Beercan	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0
Capitola	0	0	41	0	32	13	10	21	8	0	19	0
Corcoran	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Corcoran Lagoon	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cowell	13	0	5	0	36	0	0	0	20	0	23	0
Davenport	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
La Selva Beach	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lighthouse	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mitchell's Cove	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Moran Lake	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
New Brighton Beach	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0
Pajaro River Beach / Sunset	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pelton Avenue	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rio Del Mar	21	0	1	0	1	0	42	0	0	5	8	0
Santa Cruz (Main Beach)	0	0	2	0	43	0	0	0	20	0	1	0
Seabright	0	0	0	2	5	0	0	0	4	0	0	0
Seacliff State Beach	7	0	0	0	1	0	4	0	0	0	0	0
Seascape	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0
Trestle Beach	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Twin Lakes Beach	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Santa Cruz County Total	44	0	53	4	119	13	58	27	53	5	51	0

Source: California Environmental Protection Agency, State Water Resources Control Board, Beach Watch, *Beach Advisory Report*, 2006.

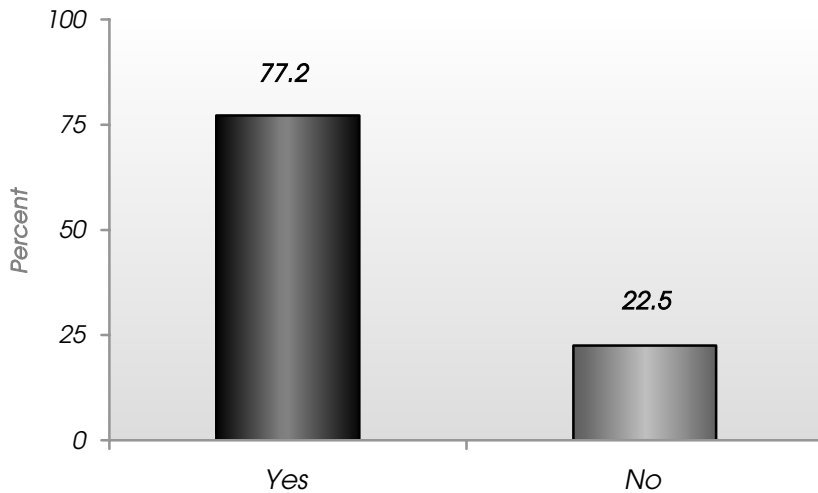
Note: Four waterflow deltas (San Lorenzo Rivermouth, Schwan Lagoon, Soquel Creek, and Aptos Creek) have permanent postings, and Neary Lagoon has a seasonal posting during winter.

QUALITY OF LIFE INDICATOR 115

 **Water Use Reduction**




Are you taking steps to reduce your household water consumption?



Total respondents	2005
Overall	703

Note: Due to their low numbers, respondents who said “don’t know” are not included in the graph.

 *Have you done any of the following (Selected responses)*

Response	2005
Use a hose end nozzle or use timers to water	78.4
Installed a low-flow showerhead	74.5
Installed a low-flow toilet	70.6
Planted low-water landscaping	56.4
Upgraded appliances to low-flow (washing machines and dishwashers)	50.9
Always turn off water / always conserve	5.6
Take shorter showers	2.7
Don't use dish washer or wait for full load	2.5
Have own well	1.9
Only run full load in washing machine	1.2

Year 2005: 523 respondents offering 1,827 responses.

Source: Santa Cruz County Community Assessment Project, *Telephone Survey*, 2005.

 **New data not available**

Water Use Reduction

Community Profile

Percent of respondents who answered “Yes” to: “Are you taking steps to reduce your household water consumption?”

By Ethnicity	*2005	2005 N
Caucasian	80.5	493
Latino	66.6	159

By Region	*2005	2005 N
North County	71.0	242
South County	83.0	234
San Lorenzo Valley	73.4	228

By Age	*2005	2005 N
18-24	53.7	63
25-44	74.5	219
45-64	82.9	267
65 and older	80.4	151

By Gender	*2005	2005 N
Male	71.2	344
Female	83.0	358

By Income	2005	2005 N
\$34,999 per year or less	71.7	264
\$35,000 - \$65,499	78.6	131
\$65,500 and greater	80.3	240

Source: Santa Cruz County Community Assessment Project, *Telephone Survey*, 2005.

* Indicates statistically significant survey responses when reporting differences between sub-groups for the 2005 data. Absence of this symbol indicates no statistical significance difference between sub-groups for the 2005 data.

 **New data not available**

Significance Testing

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

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

Age: Those *25 and older* were significantly more likely to respond “Yes” than *18-24 year olds*.

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

QUALITY OF LIFE INDICATOR 116

Non-Agricultural Water Use

Measures the annual use and production of water. These data, provided by the various water districts, are the best proxy for balancing non-agricultural use and need.

Annual Production, in Millions of Gallons¹

Water District	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	96-05 % Change
Central (rural Aptos)	147	166	189	175	183	176	191	186	208	162	10.2
Lompico	32	31	32	32	32	31	29	33	31	30	-6.3
San Lorenzo Valley	663	674	607	654	661	685	690	693	702	691	4.2
Soquel Creek	1,763	1,917	1,665	1,762	1,756	1,769	1,829	1,807	1,807	1,611	-8.6
Santa Cruz	3,940	4,222	3,836	3,999	3,964	3,939	3,885	3,868	3,874	3,550	-9.9
Scotts Valley	624	682	614	612	631	659	672	662	624	542	-13.1
Watsonville	2,264	2,362	2,325	2,472	2,487	2,481	2,503	2,488	2,543	2,468	9.0
Santa Cruz County Total²	9,433	10,054	9,268	9,706	9,714	9,740	9,799	9,737	9,789	9,054	-4.0

Annual Usage, in Millions of Gallons

Water District	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	96-05 % Change
Central (rural Aptos)	148	171	184	175	169	163	171	171	194	153	3.4
Lompico	22	23	24	22	21	22	22	24	22	30	36.4
San Lorenzo Valley	562	600	533	576	581	594	591	594	597	560	-0.4
Soquel Creek	1,638	1,740	1,571	1,641	1,695	1,668	1,719	1,670	1,666	1,559	-4.8
Santa Cruz	3,709	3,989	3,571	3,729	3,727	3,709	3,575	3,534	3,576	3,386	-8.7
Scotts Valley	592	680	607	610	628	631	667	539	574	469	-20.8
Watsonville	2,180	2,318	2,164	2,372	2,371	2,348	2,373	2,306	2,377	2,288	5.0
Santa Cruz County Total²	8,851	9,521	8,654	9,125	9,192	9,135	9,118	8,838	9,006	8,445	-4.6

Source: County Planning Department, 2000. Central, Lompico, San Lorenzo Valley, Soquel Creek, Santa Cruz, and Scotts Valley Water Districts, 2006. City of Watsonville, 2006.

Note: Data for unincorporated areas are not available.

¹Usage data for Production data is not available for unincorporated areas since usage is heavily from wells.

²Total does not include unincorporated areas.

Non-Agricultural Water Use

Number of Service Connections

Water District	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	96-05 % Change
Central (rural Aptos)	763	772	787	804	813	818	821	831	791 ¹	788	3.3
Lompico ²	493	493	493	493	494	497	497	498	498	499	1.2
San Lorenzo Valley	5,704	5,714	5,729	5,735	5,774	5,774	5,793	5,808	5,822	5,824	2.1
Soquel Creek	13,402	13,594	13,746	14,077	14,264	14,449	14,529	14,710	14,780	14,914	11.3
Santa Cruz	22,557	22,694	23,024	23,061	23,170	23,310	23,590	23,724	23,799	23,924	6.1
Scotts Valley	3,266	3,319	3,432	3,502	3,521	3,545	3,577	3,589	3,739	3,773	15.5
Watsonville	12,529	12,614	12,706	12,907	13,108	13,197	13,177	13,542	13,995	15,406	23.0
Santa Cruz County Total³	58,714	59,200	59,917	60,579	61,144	61,590	61,984	62,702	70,546	65,128	10.9

Daily Usage per Connection, in Gallons

Water District	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	96-05 % Change
Central (rural Aptos)	531.4	606.9	640.5	596.3	568.6	489	503	499	470	413	-22.3
Lompico	NA	NA	115	114	133	141	120	125	124	162	NA
San Lorenzo Valley	269.9	287.7	254.9	275.2	290.7	281.9	280	280	280	263	-2.6
Soquel Creek	334.9	350.7	313.1	319.4	325.7	316.3	324	311	309	286	-14.6
Santa Cruz ⁴	453.2	485.6	428.7	447.2	441.1	436	415	408	412	388	-14.4
Scotts Valley	496.6	561.3	484.6	477.2	488.7	487.6	510	412	420	341	-31.3
Watsonville	476.7	503.5	466.6	460.3	495.6	487	493	466	465	407	-14.6
Santa Cruz County Total³	NA	NA	2,703.4	2,689.6	2,743.4	2,638.8	2,645.0	2,501.0	2,480.0	2,260.0	NA

Source: County Planning Department, 2000. Central, Lompico, San Lorenzo Valley, Soquel Creek, Santa Cruz, and Scotts Valley Water Districts, 2006. City of Watsonville, 2006.

Note: Data for unincorporated areas are not available.

¹This includes domestic service connections only.

²Connections with extremely low usage (seasonal/weekend homes) were eliminated to prevent erroneously low values.

³Total does not include unincorporated areas.

⁴The daily use figure for Santa Cruz includes all commercial, industrial, governmental and residential water usage. It included the entire University of California, which is one metered account. In 2005, the average residential water consumption was 281 gallons per day (gpd) for the 17,704 single-family and 2,479 multi-family accounts, and 227 gpd for the individually metered residential accounts.

QUALITY OF LIFE INDICATOR 117

Air Quality

Exposure to unhealthful levels of ozone can result in chest pain, coughing, nausea, shortness of breath, headaches, congestion, and throat irritation.

Summary: Total Days Exceeding State Air Quality Standards

Pollutant	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Ozone	2	0	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	0
Particulate Matter (PM10)	13	12	4	6	0	6	4	5	8	2
Total	15	12	5	7	1	6	4	6	8	2

Source: California Air Resources Board, 2006.

Number of Days Exceeding Safe Levels of Ozone

Location	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Davenport	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Scott Valley (Scotts Valley Dr.)	2	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	0
Scotts Valley (Vine Hill)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Watsonville (Airport Blvd)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Santa Cruz (Bostwick Lane)	0	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Santa Cruz (Soquel Ave.)	NA	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Santa Cruz County Total	2	0	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	0

Source: California Air Resources Board, 2006. Monterey Bay Unified Air Pollution Control District, 2006.

Note: The figures for ozone represent exceedances of the State Ambient Air Quality Standards (one hour average) and do not include exceedances of the National Standard (eight hour average). Two monitoring sites closed and were replaced with a new nearby site; the Scotts Valley Vine Hill site was replaced in 1994 by the Scotts Valley Drive site, and the Santa Cruz Bostwick Lane site was replaced by the Soquel Avenue site in 1997.

Air Quality

Number of Monitored Days Exceeding Safe Levels of Particulate Matter

Location	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Davenport	12	12	4	6	0	6	4	5	7	2
Scotts Valley (Vine Hill)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Watsonville (Airport Blvd)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Santa Cruz (Bostwick Lane)	1	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Santa Cruz (Soquel Ave.)	NA	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Santa Cruz County Total	13	12	4	6	0	6	4	5	8	2

Source: California Air Resources Board, 2006. Monterey Bay Unified Air Pollution Control District, 2006.

Note: The above figures represent monitored exceedances of the State 24-hour Ambient Air Quality Standard for PM₁₀. However, since PM₁₀ monitoring is only conducted once every six days, the actual number of exceedances can be much higher. PM₁₀ monitoring is conducted according to a national monitoring schedule established by the United States Environmental Protection Agency. Two monitoring sites closed and were replaced with a new nearby site; the Scotts Valley Vine Hill site was replaced in 1994 by the Scotts Valley Drive site, and the Santa Cruz Bostwick Lane site was replaced by the Soquel Avenue site in 1997.

Particulate Matter (PM₁₀) refers to the mixture of solid particles and liquid droplets found in the air that are less than 10 microns in size. Studies have linked high levels of particulate matter to aggravated asthma and acute respiratory symptoms, chronic bronchitis, decreased lung function, and premature death. The largest sources of PM₁₀ are dust from vehicles driving on paved roads, grinding operations, fuel combustion, agricultural burning, and wood stoves. In Davenport, high PM₁₀ readings are due to the concentration of sea salt in the air and fugitive dust from various sources, including the cement plant.

QUALITY OF LIFE INDICATOR 117

Air Quality

Air quality complaints are tallied on the number of irritants reported by Santa Cruz County residents.

Air Quality-Related Neighborhood Complaints by Area

Location	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	96-05 % Change
Davenport	9	7	6	6	11	18	23	14	8	7	-22.2
Bonny Doon	1	2	1	1	2	1	0	2	0	0	-100.0
Ben Lomond / Felton / Boulder Creek	20	24	13	15	13	11	10	14	22	10	-50.0
Scotts Valley	7	11	4	2	9	0	3	4	6	5	-28.6
Santa Cruz	54	84	111	37	37	72	64	58	77	124	129.6
Capitola	4	2	2	2	4	2	2	0	0	3	-25.0
Soquel	10	9	4	8	8	3	11	7	7	7	-30.0
Aptos	8	7	4	5	0	3	7	8	5	8	0.0
Freedom / Corralitos	3	5	0	2	3	1	1	1	1	5	66.7
Watsonville	26	32	18	23	25	25	19	16	15	24	-7.7
Santa Cruz County Total	142	183	163	101	112	136	140	124	141	193	35.9

Air Quality-Related Neighborhood Complaints by Type

Irritant	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	96-05 % Change
Smoke / Open burning / Fireplaces	30	51	43	39	31	18	41	38	28	56	86.7
Odor	36	43	97	24	42	66	63	59	65	103	186.1
Dust	11	17	16	17	20	30	17	15	22	12	9.1
Paint	6	10	12	8	3	5	3	3	7	10	66.7
Phase II / Faulty gas nozzles	8	6	1	2	7	4	4	5	8	2	-75.0
Other (asbestos, etc)	8	6	5	11	9	13	12	4	11	10	25.0
Santa Cruz County Total	99	133	174	101	112	136	140	124	141	193	94.9

Source: Monterey Bay Unified Air Pollution Control District, 2006.

Note: A single phone call may refer to more than one irritant, and therefore those irritants are counted separately. Beginning in 1999, smoking vehicle complaints were no longer processed by the MBUAPD, and are referred to other departments.

Motor Vehicle Registrations

This is a proxy indicator of traffic congestion in Santa Cruz County. The number of vehicles per person provides an illustrative measure of how overall population increases compare with vehicle increases.

Santa Cruz County

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	96-05 % Change
Total	192,444	183,966	198,230	201,982	227,345	232,580	236,390	231,576	244,654	240,954	25.2
Population 16 and over	187,513	190,451	193,833	197,508	201,232	205,002	208,607	206,200	208,029	210,064	12.0
Vehicles per Capita¹	1.03	0.97	1.02	1.02	1.13	1.13	1.13	1.12	1.18	1.15	11.7

California

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	96-05 % Change
Total	23,724,871	22,522,604	24,105,233	24,753,847	26,727,544	27,627,105	28,686,309	28,658,748	30,696,537	30,750,440	29.6
Population 16 and over	24,179,607	24,595,265	24,975,339	25,393,255	25,824,932	26,258,516	26,697,667	27,437,447	27,869,381	28,341,692	17.2
Vehicles per Capita¹	0.98	0.92	0.97	0.97	1.03	1.05	1.07	1.04	1.10	1.08	10.2

Source: Department of Motor Vehicles, Forecasting Division, 2006. Population figures for 1994-2002: State of California, Department of Finance, *Race/Ethnic Population with Age and Sex Detail, 1970-2040*. Sacramento, California, December 1998. Population figures for 2005: State of California, Department of Finance, *Race/Ethnic Population with Age and Sex Detail, 2000-2050*, Sacramento, California, May 2004, 2006.

¹ Includes only residents aged 16 and older.

QUALITY OF LIFE INDICATOR 119

Roadway Congestion

As an indicator of traffic volume, vehicle miles traveled (VMT) can be used as a proxy indicator of air quality. VMT also helps planners make decisions about transportation management and County growth.



Daily Vehicle Miles Traveled by Jurisdiction

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	96-04 % Change
Capitola	129,200	132,200	124,000	148,000	147,300	135,360	141,810	149,410	148,630	15.0
Santa Cruz	576,500	599,500	598,900	597,800	596,500	595,900	633,180	621,000	596,090	3.4
Scotts Valley	110,200	114,600	119,800	126,700	126,600	121,350	131,130	127,280	127,470	15.7
Watsonville	290,200	297,300	312,500	342,700	335,700	328,790	346,180	343,470	373,830	28.8
County— Unincorporated	1,251,800	1,285,500	1,328,900	1,376,200	1,362,700	1,326,030	1,411,340	1,384,660	1,406,740	12.4
State Highways	2,529,500	2,675,300	2,694,400	2,749,100	2,794,000	2,826,790	2,931,850	2,995,470	3,017,090	19.3
State Parks and Recreation	9,500	12,000	14,000	16,300	14,300	11,570	15,340	13,090	12,440	30.9
University of California	NA	NA	NA	31,200	31,800	31,830	32,830	33,150	33,550	NA
Santa Cruz County Total	4,896,900	5,116,400	5,192,500	5,388,000	5,408,900	5,377,610	5,643,670	5,667,530	5,715,850	16.7

Daily Vehicle Miles Traveled, County Comparison

Other Local Counties	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	96-04 % Change
Monterey	8,694,900	9,217,300	9,331,900	9,841,500	9,930,100	9,685,050	10,450,690	10,101,160	9,941,300	14.3
San Benito	1,139,600	1,164,600	1,244,100	1,350,300	1,462,400	1,466,890	1,476,550	1,498,290	1,455,710	27.7
San Mateo	17,414,500	18,280,800	18,593,900	19,336,100	19,383,400	18,885,220	19,974,270	19,223,030	18,748,890	7.7
Santa Clara	37,945,100	38,410,600	39,940,100	40,979,600	41,135,900	41,444,740	42,674,740	42,213,520	40,619,360	7.0
Total	65,194,100	67,073,300	69,110,000	71,507,500	71,911,800	71,481,900	74,576,250	73,063,000	70,765,260	8.5

Source: California Department of Transportation (CalTrans), 2004 California Public Road Data, 2005.

Note: CalTrans calculates Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) by multiplying the length of each given road segment by its traffic volume in a day.

Alternative Transportation

Ridership statistics and bikeway miles measure to what extent residents rely on transit services and bikeway infrastructure.

Annual Transit Ridership by Selected Types

Type of Transport	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99	1999-00	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	94-05 % Change
Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District (SCMTD)	6,631,042	6,457,610 ¹	6,457,610 ¹	6,155,004 ¹	6,155,004 ¹	6,155,004 ¹	6,140,571 ¹	6,105,478	5,939,048	5,680,884	5,398,924	-18.6
Hwy 17 Express Bus	175,964	168,386 ¹	181,465	174,581	179,353	178,445	189,014	165,062	149,948	142,723	197,960	12.5
Lifeline (Paratransit)	28,516	37,814	51,457	66,578	83,754	103,074	101,541	108,089	105,989	91,704	87,058	205.3
Total	6,835,522	6,663,810¹	6,690,532¹	6,396,163¹	6,418,111¹	6,436,523¹	6,431,126¹	6,378,629	6,194,985	5,915,311	5,683,942	-16.8

Source: Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District, 2005.

Note: Ridership refers to the number of trips taken in a specified time frame. There is currently no data available on the number of people who commute to work using carpool services or bicycles. See Census 2000 data in the Demographics section of this report for related commuting data.

¹Figure revised.

 **New data not available**

Bikeway Miles

Jurisdiction	1994	1997	1999	2002 ¹	2003	2004	2005
Capitola	5.8	6.2	6.4	6.4	8.3	10.4	11.0
Santa Cruz	28.8	30.9	31.8	31.8	31.8	35.2	35.2
Scotts Valley	2.8	4.4	4.8	8.5	9.3	9.5	9.5
Watsonville	5.8	5.8	6.0	9.2	9.2	9.2	11.4
Unincorporated	24.7	26.4	26.7	28.1	32.6	32.6	32.6
Santa Cruz County Total	67.9	73.7	75.7	84.0	91.2	96.9	99.7

Sources: Valley Transportation Authority, 2000. Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission, 2006.

Note: Totals include only Class I bike paths and Class II bike lanes.

¹No data available for years 2000 and 2001.

Commuting to Work (workers 16 years and over)

Commute mode	1990 Number	2000 Number	2000 Percent	Calif. 2000 Percent
Car, truck, or van – drive alone	81,112	87,690	69.5	71.8
Car, truck, or van – carpoled	16,702	17,910	14.2	14.5
Public transportation (including taxicab)	3,782	4,159	3.3	5.1
Walked	NA ¹	5,599	4.4	2.9
Other means	3,775	4,003	3.2	1.9
Worked at home	NA ¹	6,745	5.3	3.8
Mean travel time to work (in minutes)	NA ¹	27.8	NA	27.7

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, *Factfinder Quick Tables: Profile of Demographic Characteristics*, 2001.

¹Many Census categories changed in 2000 and are not comparable to 1990 Census data; also, 1990 Census data does not reflect percent of total.

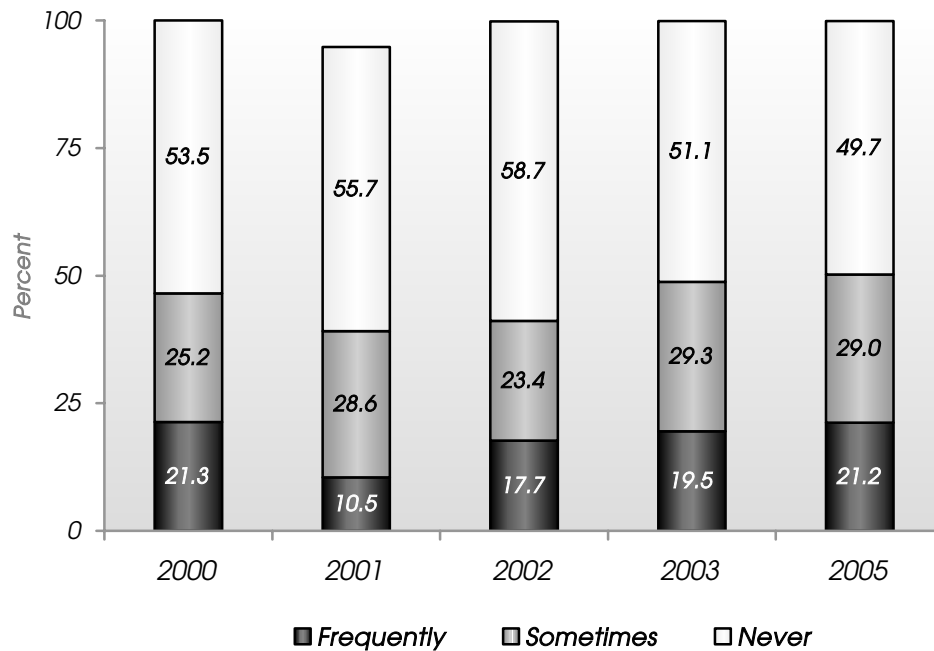
 **New data not available**

QUALITY OF LIFE INDICATOR 120

Alternative Transportation

Interest in using alternative transportation is important for planning new transit routes and alternate possibilities for transit.

How often do you use transportation other than your own car?



Total respondents	2000	2001	2002	2003	2005
Overall	530	698	684	702	708

Note: 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 these questions.

What would encourage you to use alternative forms of transportation? (Selected responses)

Response	2000	2001	2002	2003	2005
More frequent bus schedule / Convenience	9.2	15.1	15.6	15.9	19.2
Nothing / Wouldn't use it ¹	45.4	16.5	19.9	16.3	14.8
Easier access	2.8	6.3	5.0	5.9	7.5
Already use it	12.7	5.2	10.8	13.5	5.7
More / Safer / Better bike paths	2.3	4.3	2.0	3.0	5.3
If car broke down	4.4	8.9	9.7	4.5	4.3
Free transit / lower fares	2.3	1.9	0.9	1.0	4.2
Expense of gasoline	2.1	4.0	1.5	3.4	4.0
Light rail / Train	2.3	2.8	3.1	2.3	1.7
Rapid transit	2.1	2.3	1.2	0.5	0.6
Total Respondents	566	681	661	691	646

Source: Santa Cruz County Community Assessment Project, *Telephone Survey*, 2005.

¹ In 2005, this response choice was changed from “Nothing / Wouldn’t use it / Not now / Have children” into two response choices “Nothing / Wouldn’t use it” and “Too difficult to use with children.”



New data not available

Endangered Species - Plants

The following table shows plants on List 1B, a designation of the California Native Plant Society (CNPS) indicating the plants are rare, threatened, or endangered in California and elsewhere. In addition, these plants are recognized as Federal Species of Concern, are eligible for state listing, and must be considered under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The following lists show plant and animal species found within Santa Cruz County that are threatened or endangered species.

Scientific Name	Common Name	Family	State Status	Federal Status
<i>Agrostis blasdalei</i>	Blasdale's bent grass	Poaceae		
<i>Amsinckia lunaris</i>	Bent-flowered fiddleneck	Boraginaceae		
<i>Arctostaphylos andersonii</i>	Santa Cruz manzanita	Ericaceae		
<i>Arctostaphylos gutinosa</i>	Schreiber's manzanita	Ericaceae		
<i>Arctostaphylos hookeri</i> ssp. <i>hookeri</i>	Hooker's manzanita	Ericaceae		
<i>Arctostaphylos silvicola</i>	Bonny Doon manzanita	Ericaceae		
<i>Chorizanthe pungens</i> var. <i>hartwegiana</i>	Ben Lomond spineflower	Polygonaceae		Endangered
<i>Chorizanthe pungens</i> var. <i>pungens</i>	Monterey spineflower	Polygonaceae		Threatened
<i>Chorizanthe robusta</i> var. <i>hartwegii</i>	Scott's Valley spineflower	Polygonaceae		Endangered
<i>Chorizanthe robusta</i> var. <i>robusta</i>	Robust spineflower	Polygonaceae		Endangered
<i>Collinsia multicolor</i>	San Francisco collinsia	Scrophulariaceae		
<i>Cupressus abramsiana</i>	Santa Cruz cypress	Cupressaceae	Endangered	Endangered
<i>Eriogonum nudum</i> var. <i>decurrens</i>	Ben Lomond buckwheat	Polygonaceae		
<i>Erysimum ammophilum</i>	Coast wallflower	Brassicaceae		
<i>Erysimum teretifolium</i>	Santa Cruz wallflower	Brassicaceae	Endangered	Endangered
<i>Fissidens pauperculus</i>	Minute pocket-moss	Fissidentaceae		
<i>Grindelia hirsutula</i> var. <i>maritima</i>	San Francisco gumplant	Asteraceae		
<i>Hoita strobilina</i>	Loma Prieta hoita	Fabaceae		
<i>Holocarpha macradenia</i>	Santa Cruz tarplant	Asteraceae	Endangered	Threatened
<i>Horkelia cuneata</i> ssp. <i>sericea</i>	Kellogg's horkelia	Rosaceae		

Source: California Native Plant Society, *Inventory of Rare and Endangered Plants of California (Sixth edition)*, 2001.

QUALITY OF LIFE INDICATOR 121

Endangered Species - Plants (continued)

Scientific Name	Common Name	Family	State Status	Federal Status
<i>Horkelia marinensis</i>	Point Reyes horkelia	Rosaceae		
<i>Malacothamnus arcuatus</i>	Arcuate bush mallow	Malvaceae		
<i>Microseris paludosa</i>	Marsh microseris	Asteraceae		
<i>Penstemon rattanii</i> var. <i>kleei</i>	Santa Cruz Mountains beardtongue	Scrophulariaceae		
<i>Pinus radiata</i>	Monterey pine	Pinaceae		
<i>Plagiobothrys chorisianus</i> var. <i>chorisianus</i>	Choris's popcorn-flower	Boraginaceae		
<i>Plagiobothrys diffusus</i>	San Francisco popcorn-flower	Boraginaceae	Endangered	
<i>Polygonum hickmanii</i>	Scotts Valley polygonum	Polygonaceae	Endangered	Endangered
<i>Rosa pinetorum</i>	Pine rose	Rosaceae		
<i>Sidalcea malachroides</i>	Maple-leaved checkerbloom	Malvaceae		
<i>Silene verecunda</i> ssp. <i>verecunda</i>	San Francisco campion	Caryophyllaceae		
<i>Stebbinsoseris decipiens</i>	Santa Cruz microseris	Asteraceae		
<i>Trifolium buckwestiorum</i>	Santa Cruz clover	Fabaceae		
<i>Trifolium depauperatum</i> var. <i>hydrophilum</i>	Saline clover	Fabaceae		

Source: California Native Plant Society, *Inventory of Rare and Endangered Plants of California (Sixth edition)*, 2001.



New data not available

Endangered Species - Animals

Type	Common Name	State Status	Federal Status
Amphibian	California Red-legged Frog		Threatened
	California Tiger Salamander		Threatened
	Santa Cruz Long-toed Salamander	Endangered	Endangered
Bird	Bald Eagle	Endangered	Threatened (Proposed Delisted)
	Bank Swallow	Threatened	
	California Black Rail	Threatened	
	California Brown Pelican	Endangered	Endangered
	California Clapper Rail	Endangered	Endangered
	Marbled Murrelet	Endangered	Threatened
	Western Snowy Plover		Threatened
	Western Yellow-billed Cuckoo	Endangered	
Fish	Coho Salmon – Central California ESU	Endangered	Endangered
	Steelhead – South/Central California Coast ESU		Threatened
	Steelhead – Central California Coast ESU		Threatened
Insect	Mount Hermon June Beetle		Endangered
	Ohlone Tiger Beetle		Endangered
	Zayante Band-winged Grasshopper		Endangered
Mammal	Southern Sea Otter		Threatened
Reptile	San Francisco Garter Snake	Endangered	Endangered

Source: State of California, Department of Fish and Game, Habitat Conservation Division, Wildlife and Habitat Data Analysis Branch, *California Natural Diversity Database, State and Federally Listed Endangered and Threatened Animals of California*, 2006.

QUALITY OF LIFE INDICATOR 122

Ecological Restoration and Access Projects

Projects to assess, repair, or restore at-risk habitats and areas on public land are listed here by location and project description. There are over 65 current, on-going ecological restoration and access projects in Santa Cruz County. The following table shows these projects with budgets of \$100,000 or more.

Location	Project Description
26 th Avenue Stairway Construction [4883]	Construct a new stairway at the foot of 26th Avenue to replace a former stairway that was destroyed by storms in 1999.
Alternatives to A Toxic Tomorrow	Ensure that a wide variety of non-toxic or the least toxic products are available for consumer purchase. Gather data from pesticide distribution centers on the percent increase of the sale of less toxic products. Make information on less toxic alternatives available to the general public.
Aptos Creek Watershed Assessment and Enhancement Plan	Provide current information and analysis for conditions within the watershed. The plan will result in recommendations for site specific habitat protection and restoration prescriptions for steelhead and Coho salmon.
Big Basin Redwoods SP, Wastewater Collection & Treatment, Phase II [6029-0304-1.5]	Implement additional measures to rehabilitate the Big Basin wastewater treatment plant and replace/improve the existing laboratory/office facility.
Clean Streams/ Clean Bay (CS/CB) Community Watershed Monitoring Project	Addresses the problem of toxic contamination, primarily mercury, polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), and polybrominated diphenyl ethers (PBDEs) in the Santa Clara Basin and San Francisco Bay watersheds.
Coho and Steelhead Recovery in a Coastal California Stream	Provide recommendations for the sustainable natural production of Coho and steelhead in the Scott Creek drainage through the study of deterministic biological and abiological factors.
County of Santa Cruz Road Crossing and Salmonid Passage Assessment	Complete an initial assessment of all Santa Cruz County road crossings on salmonid streams. Evaluate passage conditions at up to 70 stream crossings that may be passage impediments for salmonids.
Henry Cowell Redwoods Sp - Visitor Center Interpretive Exhibits [IEP005-00]	Fabrication and installation of exhibits in the Henry Cowell Redwoods State Park Visitor Center.
Lower Scotts and Queseria Creeks Riparian Restoration Project in Southern Coho Stream	Restore natural hydrologic functioning to lower Scotts Creek and Queseria Creek by removing channelization devices and creating a riparian corridor for Queseria Creek.
New Brighton SB, Storm Drainage Improvements [6029-0304-8-2]	Improve the Tanner Creek drainage at New Brighton State Beach day-use parking lot area by upgrading existing drainage facilities to enhance system operation and creating retention areas for storm flows.
O'Neill Sea Odyssey Visitor Center [4448]	Grant to the O'Neill Sea Odyssey's marine education facility to construct disabled access to its marine education center that offers guided boat tours serving youth interested in learning about the ocean resources of Monterey Bay.
Permit Coordination Program For Santa Cruz County [4719]	The Santa Cruz County Resource Conservation District and Sustainable Conservation will prepare a permit coordination program for the watersheds in Santa Cruz County.
Playground Renovation [C0207492_02-44-001]	Renovate play equipment in three playgrounds (Delaveaga Park Playground, John Franks Park Playground and Grant Street Park Playground) to meet State mandated playground safety standards.
San Lorenzo River Parkway Trail [40716-01]	Construction of a pedestrian/bicycle trail along the San Lorenzo River from the Riverside Bridge to Laurel Street, which will connect existing trails on either side of the river to make a 5-mile loop.

Source: Information Center for the Environment, *Natural Resource Projects Inventory*, 2006.

Ecological Restoration and Access Projects (continued)

Location	Project Description
San Lorenzo River Watershed – Management Plan (4-133-250)	Update the 1979 San Lorenzo River Management Plan and implement coordinated measures to protect and improve water quality.
San Lorenzo Wastewater Management Study (3-083-225)	Develop and implement a comprehensive wastewater management program for the San Lorenzo River Watershed that includes inspection, maintenance, and improvement of existing on-site systems.
Santa Cruz County Integrated Watershed Restoration Program [03-053]	Establish a multi-jurisdictional program to facilitate and coordinate watershed restoration projects in Santa Cruz County.
Seacliff State Beach, Drainage At Stairwell [6029-0203-DM22]	Makes improvements to the drainage in the vicinity of the beach access stairs at Seacliff State Beach.
Seacliff State Beach, Pier [6029-0203-DM23]	Makes repairs to the pier at Seacliff State Beach.
Soquel Creek Lagoon Enhancement	Improve and maintain the flume structure, which is an integral part of the juvenile freshwater habitat for steelhead and Coho salmon. Enhance the habitat of anadromous salmonid species in the Soquel Creek Lagoon.
Wilder Creek Restoration Project	Halt ongoing stream and habitat destruction by removing sediment detention basin and earthen dam. Increase and improve the anadromous fish habitat throughout Wilder Creek by restoring stream channel and removing concrete spillway.

Source: Information Center for the Environment, *Natural Resource Projects Inventory*, 2006.

QUALITY OF LIFE INDICATOR 123

Waste Reduction

Waste disposal tables monitor average landfill disposal per person and the amount of waste that is diverted from landfills.

Total Annual Tons of Waste Disposal

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	96-04 % Change
Capitola	12,325	12,018	11,554	12,304	11,753	11,031	10,842	11,229	12,021	-2.5
Santa Cruz	72,546	75,604	71,549	69,477	81,106	70,791 ²	60,922	64,618	64,538	-11.0
Scotts Valley	12,284	11,549	14,609	13,764	12,691	11,536	11,836	12,923	13,320	8.4
Watsonville	33,756	34,068	39,642	40,269	42,423	36,761	36,097	37,504	40,304	19.4
Unincorporated Areas	105,544	106,945	112,603	113,109	121,726	116,836	120,810	115,899	118,017	11.8
Santa Cruz County Total	236,455	240,184	249,957	248,923	269,699	246,954²	240,507	242,173	248,200	5.0

Estimated Pounds of Waste Disposed Per Person, Per Day (Residential Disposal Rate)

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	96-04 Net Change
Capitola	2.6	2.5	2.4	2.6	2.7	2.5	2.4	2.5	2.7	0.1
Santa Cruz	3.9	4.1	3.8	3.6	4.2	3.7	3.2	3.3	3.3	-0.6
Scotts Valley	1.0	0.9	1.1	1.1	0.9	0.8	0.8	0.9	0.9	-0.1
Watsonville	3.0	2.8	3.2	3.2	2.9	2.3	1.6	1.7	1.8	-1.2
Unincorporated Areas	1.6	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.9	1.8	1.9	1.8	1.8	0.2
State Total¹	2.4	2.4	2.4²	2.4	2.4	2.5	2.4	2.5	2.5	0.1

Source: California Integrated Waste Management Board, 2005. Population figures for 1995-2002: State of California, Department of Finance, *Race/Ethnic Population with Age and Sex Detail, 1970-2040*. Sacramento, California, December 1998. Population figures for 2003-2004: State of California Department of Finance, *E-4 Population Estimates for Cities, Counties and the State, 2001-2005, with 2000 DRU Benchmark*, Sacramento, California, 2005.

Note: The residential disposal rate is calculated by taking the total annual waste disposal (in tons) multiplied by the annual residential generation rate and then divided by the population. That number is then converted from tons to pounds. "Tons Per Person" figures reflect disposal trends that are adjusted for population growth and are for illustrative purposes only.

¹Indicates estimated figures.

²Indicates revised figure.



New data not available

Waste Reduction

Percent of Waste Diverted from Landfills and Transformation Facilities (Diversion Rate)

Jurisdiction	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003 ¹
Capitola	NA	NA	NA	NA	44	48	51	51	48
Santa Cruz	35	36	36	41	47	48	48	52	48
Scotts Valley	59	62	64	55	59	64	67	65	61
Watsonville	25	26	35	32	67	66	72	72	70
Unincorporated Areas	21	20	21	19	46	50	55	51	44
Santa Cruz County Total	33	35	36	35	37	NA	NA	NA	NA
Statewide Total	28	31	32	33	37	42	42	48	47

Note: Official Board-approved diversion rates are not available for the City of Capitola prior to 1999, nor are they available for Santa Cruz County overall after 1999. In 1989 the California Integrated Waste Management Board mandated that California cities reduce their generated waste by 25% by 1995, and 50% by 2000.

Total Annual Tons of Waste Diverted from Landfills and Transformation Facilities

Jurisdiction	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003 ¹	95-03 % Change
Capitola	NA	NA	NA	NA	5,414	5,641	5,626	5,529	5,390	NA
Santa Cruz	25,227	26,117	27,217	29,335	32,654	38,931	339,798	31,679	31,017	23.0
Scotts Valley	8,279	7,616	7,391	8,035	8,121	8,122	7,729	7,693	7,883	-4.8
Watsonville	8,412	8,777	11,924	12,685	26,980	27,999	26,468	25,990	26,253	212.1
Unincorporated Areas	21,378	21,109	22,458	21,395	52,030	60,863	64,260	61,613	50,996	138.5
Santa Cruz County Total	77,998	82,759	86,466	87,485	92,102	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

Source: California Integrated Waste Management Board, 2005.

Note: Annual tons of waste diverted is calculated by multiplying the diversion rate times the total annual tons of waste disposal.

¹Preliminary data. Calculation does not include biomass diversion; therefore, it is likely these rates will increase once finalized.

Diversion rate: The percentage of its total waste that a jurisdiction diverted from disposal at Board-permitted landfills and transformation facilities through reduction, reuse, recycling programs, and composting programs.

 **New data not available**

