

Community Assessment

2024 -2026

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Process



Purpose

Provide a clear pictures of the health, safety, education and money of Contra Costa county.

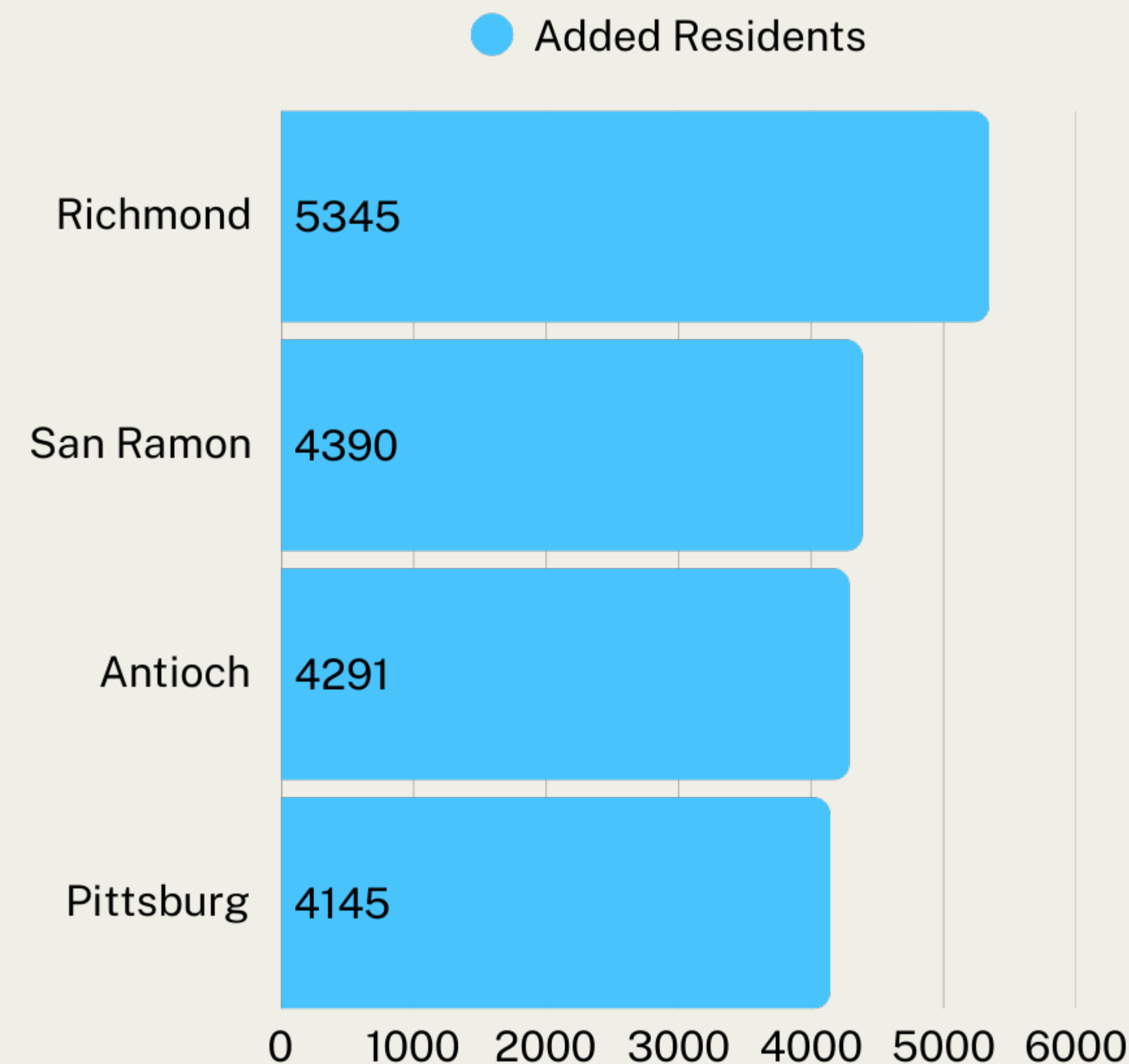
Find areas in which the community does well and areas it needs help with.

How

The Assessment uses information from government sources, surveys to understand who lives in the area, what life is like, and what Head Start families need.

County Demography

- County Population: 1,161,458 Residents
 - Grown by 11% since 2010
 - Grown by 1% since 2020
- Ethnic Make up
 - White: 44%
 - Hispanic: 27%
 - Asian: 19%
 - Mutli-Racial: 15%
 - Black 9%
- Since 2020
 - Households rose 3%
 - Families rose 3%
 - Married-couple Families rose 2%
 - Single Females rose 4%
- Population of Children
 - 0-17 down 2%
 - 0-4 down 4%



Since 2020

COUNTY ECONOMY

Income

Since 2021

- Median family income rose to \$146,002
- In 2024, the Self -Sufficiency Standard reported a cost of \$161,195 per year (~\$76/hour) for one adult with an infant and a preschooler.

Housing

Since 2021

- Monthly costing upwards of \$2,322
 - Unaffordable for 69,491 people
- Monthly Housing cost rose by 18%
 - Unaffordable for 82,933 people.

Employment

• Since 2023

- Employment rate is 4.9% lower than the state 5.4%
- In 2021, 85% of parents sought child care.



POVERTY

In 2023

- 8% of people lived in poverty.
- 33,508 were kids between the ages 0-16

- CalWORKs Cases rose by 20%
 - Providing the needs of 12,248 children
- SNAP rose by 8%
 - Serving 31,571 households
- 44,480 children live in public assistance households



HEALTH COVERAGE

- Since 2020
 - Only 5% of residents are uninsured
 - Children 0-17 made up 3%
- Medicaid only coverage among children remains unchanged at 27%



HEALTH TRENDS

Pregnancy

90% of women now get care early in pregnancy

- Only 65% continue through full term

Air Quality

- In 2024
 - 14,057 Children and 79,110 adults with asthma are at risk from poor air quality

Drug Use

- Since 2021
 - Drug-induced death rose by 22%



COUNTY SAFETY

- Felony Arrest fell by 22%
 - Violent Offense down 14%
 - Drug Offense down 21%
- Juvenile arrest rose by 22%
 - 60% felonies, 40% Misdemeanors
- Child abuse rates have dropped by 32%



HEAD START POPULATION

- In 2024
 - Day Care slots in homes rose by 5%
 - Infant slots in centers rose by 4%
 - Centers gained 3,732 slots open to serve all ages
- Estimates for 2025-2026
 - Income-eligible 0-2 year old fell 3% to 7,592
 - Income-eligible pregnant women rose 13% to 2,379
 - Income-eligible 3-5 year olds also fell 10% to 5,518



COUNTY EDUCATION

- 40% (67,325) of Contra Costa students were Free and Reduced Priced Lunch -eligible
- Residents in school (Since 2020)
 - 6% attend preschool (down 10 %)
 - 51% of 3-4 year-olds attend school (down 11%)
 - College enrollment fell 4%
- Transitional Kindergarten
 - In 2023 enrollment rose by 29%
- Chronic absenteeism rose by 77% in 2024.
 - Dropout rates rose to 7%



OBSERVATIONS

- The County is experiencing economic growth and demographic shifts
- In addition, the housing affordability, homelessness, and public dependence is also rising
- Crime Trends and education gaps create a future of uncertainty.

Questions?

Thank you for your time!